

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 1st instant, at 41, Elgin Terrace, Hongkong, the wife of C. E. OSMUND, of a son. [868
At Rheda Bungalow, Hongkong, on the 6th April, 1896, the wife of W. A. MATTHEWS, R.A., of a son. [899

MARRIAGE.

At Shanghai, on the 28th March, 1896, at H.I. German Majesty's Consulate-General, FREIHERRN FERDINAND KARL WILHELM LOUIS EMIL MILCHLING to MAY MABEL MCCARTHY.

DEATH.

At Shanghai, on the 30th of March, 1896, FLORENCE MARY, the beloved wife of J. DRAPER-BENTLEY, aged 27 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 6th March arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Pekin*, on the 3rd April (28 days); and the American mail of the 14th March arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 5th April (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Telegrams from Korea to the Japanese papers report continued murders of Japanese.

It is stated that the new Japanese ironclad *Fuji-yama* is to leave the Thames on the 15th instant.

The Japanese flag was hoisted over the new Settlement at Soochow for the first time on the 30th March.

The Shanghai Gas Company has decided to increase its capital by the issue of 1,000 new shares of £1s. 10s. each.

Baron von Greenau, who has been appointed Military Attaché to the German Legation at Peking, arrived at Shanghai by the *Preussen*.

A telegram has been received stating that the directors of the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, recommend a dividend of 5 per cent. per annum on the A shares and of 2 per cent. per annum on the B shares for the half year ended 31st December last, carrying forward £8,000.

M. E. Frandon, Consul for France at Foochow, who has been in ill health for some time past, left on the 25th March on six months' leave of absence. Until his return M. Paul Clandet has charge of the Consulate.

A Reuter's telegram of the 8th April reads:—Commercial and Consular treaties between Germany and Japan have been signed at Berlin. It is understood that extraterritoriality is not wholly abolished and that German imports obtain numerous tariff reductions.

The telegram received in Tonkin with reference to the proposed railway in Kwangsi reads as follows:—"China has authorised the construction of a railway from Lungchow, near Langson, penetrating China." The *Courrier* suggests that it should read "from Lungchow to the Tonkin frontier." This is probably correct.

The report of the Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited, has been issued. On the working account for 1894 and previous years a special dividend of 10 per cent. is recommended. The working account for 1895 shows a balance of \$294,832 and it is proposed to pay a dividend of 10 per cent., to place \$50,000 to reserve fund, and to carry forward \$203,144.

H.E. Li Hung-chang arrived at Hongkong on the 31st March on his way to Europe, but he declined the Governor's invitation to luncheon and did not land at all. The reason alleged was that he was afraid of the plague, or of being quarantined at Singapore, though he was assured that his landing would not entail quarantine in the absence of actual sickness on board.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 23rd March says:—The time for applications for the new bonds closed yesterday. Applications for only 1,300,000 yen have been received out of the 10,000,000 yen required, and these applications were mostly from the rural districts. The Nippon Bank is expected to take up 3,000,000 yen, but this still leaves a deficit of more than 5,000,000 yen.

We (*China Gazette*) learn that the armed Customs cruiser *Chuentiao*, Captain Wyles, will leave Shanghai on April 20th for Taku or Tientsin, where Sir Robert Hart will embark on his tour around the various treaty ports and lighthouses of China. It is at present expected that the "I.G." will go south at once and begin his tour from the furthest point, working back gradually to the north.

Mr. John Andrew returned to Hongkong on the morning of the 2nd April by the night boat from Canton. He was finally allowed to sell his cargo at Wuchow, as already reported, but as yet nothing has been settled with respect to his claim for compensation for his enforced delay. The boat he hired to take his cargo up to Wuchow did not return to Canton with him, and Mr. Andrew came down as a passenger on a trading junk, but brought no cargo of his own.

A memorandum on the military contribution question has been submitted for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies by the unofficial members of the Hongkong Legislative Council, the object of the memorandum being to show that the colony is entitled to a rebate on the 17½ per cent. levy in respect of various items of revenue which are purely municipal or which are merely nominal and do not represent bona fide receipts.

A Peking telegram to the Japan papers states that the Plenipotentiaries had their tenth conference in reference to the Commercial Treaty on the 23rd March, and it is believed the negotiations are now well on the way to a conclusion.

At Bangkok on the 20th March the Borneo Company's rice-mill and four godowns were completely destroyed by fire. Fortunately the saw-mill and the immense stores of timber were saved. The Company are said to be almost fully insured.

The Peking correspondent of the *Sinwenpao* says that General Tang Fuhsiang has had an encounter with the Mohammedans in Kansu, which resulted unfavourably to the General and the Imperial troops. According to this information it is assumed that the Mohammedan rebellion has not subsided, as was recently reported, but is in its full strength at the two places, namely, Kansu and Shensi.—*Mercury*.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 29th March says:—The Diet was closed to-day. The Imperial Message was read to the members of both Houses, assembled together, by Count Kuroda, acting Prime Minister. The address expressed appreciation of the diligence with which the members had laboured during the past three months on business of great importance to the State; and his Majesty added that it gave him great pleasure to observe how harmoniously and with what sincerity of patriotism and devotion they had laboured to increase the prosperity of the Empire.

The *North Borneo Herald* says:—Mr. McGregor Smith's report on the land he has examined and selected on the Kinabatangan and Labuk rivers is that it is all that can be desired for the cultivation of sugar. In fact he considers it second to none out here for that purpose and the table land he says is simply perfection. Mr. Smith is taking home some excellent samples of cane to show what can be produced in British North Borneo. It will not be long before the industry will be established here on a sound commercial basis. The names of the gentlemen interested in the venture are a guarantee that it will be carried out in such a way as to ensure permanent success.

Sir Claude MacDonald, the new British Minister to China, arrived at Hongkong on the 3rd April. On the 4th he had a private interview with the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce and was afterwards entertained to luncheon by the members of the China Association. His Excellency, in responding to the toast of his health, said it would not become him to speak in a political sense, but he referred to the legacy, commercial, industrial, and political, handed down to us in the Far East by our forefathers, which it was our bounden duty to maintain at all hazards. China, he said, so far as the possibilities of trade and commerce were concerned, was still in its infancy, and it was our duty to make the most of those possibilities, and see that we got our fair share of them. We should not do so, owing to competition, without a severe struggle, and it behoved every one to stand and fight if necessary shoulder to shoulder to maintain and extend that noble legacy which our forefathers had handed down to us. His Excellency produced a most excellent impression on his audience. At Shanghai he is to be entertained to dinner by the local branch of the China Association.

THE NEW MINISTER.

(3rd April.)

By the incoming English mail Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, the new British Minister to Peking, will arrive. His Excellency has been selected by Her Majesty's Government outside of the ordinary groove, presumably on account of the belief that he possesses special qualifications for the difficult post to which he has been appointed at a peculiarly critical period. We trust he will not enter upon his new duties with the idea that his chief object is to be the evasion of responsibility. When complaints have been made during the last few years of the weakness of British policy in China and of the eclipse of British prestige by the growing influence of other powers it has been urged in reply that the responsibility did not rest with the Minister, whose hands were tied by the home Government. How far this may have been so the outside public, who have not access to the official instructions, have little opportunity of judging, but the man wanted at Peking is one who will not allow his hands to be tied, or who will at least resist the operation as far as possible and use to the fullest extent whatever measure of freedom may be allowed him. It is said that adventures are to the adventurous and it may with equal truth be said that responsibility is to the responsible. The timorous man who plays for safety and is afraid to act on his own initiative is only too glad to believe that he has no real power and to evade the use of such as he may actually possess, but the man who is not afraid of responsibility will wield power in all positions and under all conditions. It is very essential that at the present time the British Minister at Peking should exercise an active influence and not be a mere quiescent spectator of the trend of events, also that he should be the keeper of his own political judgment and conscience and not surrender himself to the guidance of Sir ROBERT HART or any other servant of the Chinese Government. Of the Inspector-General we desire to speak with all respect and with a full recognition of the magnificent services he has rendered to the Chinese Government and to foreign trade in China; but his duty is to the Chinese, not to the British Government, and no man can serve two masters. While Sir ROBERT may use his influence with the Chinese Government for the introduction of reforms he must naturally be expected to discountenance strong measures on the part of Foreign Governments to compel the reforms he advocates. But strong measures are necessary and if real progress in the furtherance of British interests is to be made the Minister must keep himself free from the paralysing influence of men who are permeated with tenderness for Chinese pride and folly.

(6th April.)

There was the true ring about Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's short speech at the luncheon given in his honour by the China Association on Saturday. Politically the speech may be described as non-committal, but, if words mean anything, it conveys an assurance that "the responsible, anxious, and "important duties" which lie before the new Minister will be discharged in a spirit of true British energy and firmness. British diplomacy in China has long been conducted under the delusion that China was a great power, not to be kowtowed to exactly, but to be conciliated and managed by a deferential and respectful treatment which every one sees now was

wholly unsuited to the circumstances and unwarranted by any claim the Chinese Government can put forward. The bubble has been pricked and there will be no excuse for the new Minister if he fails to appreciate at their true importance the value of the lessons of the last two years. In proposing His Excellency's health Mr. JACKSON said that at the mention of the word China he was not disposed to exclaim "Ichabod." "On the contrary," continued the Chairman, "I am convinced that the Middle Kingdom is "destined to play a great and important "part in the history of the world. I know "a good deal of China . . . and I am "convinced that a nation of three hundred "and fifty million intelligent and sober "people is a factor that ever must be most "important in the highest politics." The Minister, referring to this portion of the Chairman's speech, said that "China is a "great nation, but, so far as the possibilities "of trade and commerce are concerned, it is "still in its infancy. We must see that "we make the most of these possibilities." Commercially China is great, and is destined apparently to play an important part in the history of the world; but as an empire she is almost a nonentity, she is powerless either for offence or defence, corruption prevails in all branches of her administration, and oppression and injustice stalk through the land. Whether the Government is to be reformed or the country to be partitioned amongst other powers is now the question. The existing administration merits no real respect, and a policy of firm compulsion on the part of the foreign powers is called for in the interests alike of China and of the great trade of which the country is capable. Here international jealousies come into play, and the new Minister will not find his task an easy one, but if he is to discharge it with honour and credit to himself and his country he will have to throw over the temporising policy of the past and show a firm front. The impression Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD created during his short stay in Hongkong was that he would not be found lacking in firmness or ability, that he would not shirk responsibility, and that he is the man for the post to which he has been appointed.

LI HUNG-CHANG IN HONGKONG.

(1st April.)

The great LI HUNG-CHANG has not deigned to honour Hongkong with his presence on shore. There was no obligation upon His Excellency to land if he did not feel so disposed, but there seems to have been some lack of courtesy in the manner in which he declined the invitation which H.E. the Governor wired to him at Shanghai. If he had said definitely that he preferred not to land no fault could have been found with his decision, but to leave the matter open and then to decline at the last moment, when all preparations had been made for giving him an official reception and an entertainment at Government House, was not quite a dignified course to pursue. If he was really afraid of the plague, which is very difficult to believe, he had as full knowledge of the position before he left Shanghai as he had at the moment his steamer entered the harbour and could have formed his decision then as well as later; or, if he simply wanted an excuse to cover his disinclination to land, he might have pleaded that he wished to make his voyage a restful one and to avoid the fatigue of festivities en route. The real reason for his

not landing may possibly have been an objection to appear as the guest of a foreign Government on territory that formerly belonged to China and where he could not receive that obeisance from the native population that he conceives to be his due. As things have turned out it was certainly unfortunate that any idea of according him an official reception was ever entertained, and even had they turned out differently the policy would still have been a questionable one. By the last homeward French mail there passed through Hongkong His Imperial Highness Prince FUSHIMI NO MUJA, the Japanese Ambassador appointed to proceed to St. Petersburg to be present at the coronation of the Czar. No special honour was paid to him, although he is personally of higher rank than LI, being a member of the Imperial Family of Japan, and his official position is the same. We believe His Excellency was asked if he would accept a guard of honour, but he declined, preferring to land privately and pay his respects to the Governor without ceremony. That is the correct position. An Ambassador, like a Governor, an Admiral, or a General, when he is travelling outside his sphere of office ranks only as a private individual, and it is a mistake, perhaps more especially in the case of a Chinaman, to attempt to force honours upon an official to which he is not officially entitled.

Some disappointment has no doubt been felt by the European community at being deprived of the opportunity of seeing LI, for His Excellency is a man of mark and of interesting personality, and there is a natural desire in most people to see the notabilities of history in the flesh when opportunity offers. But LI, although a great man, is not one whose career should inspire undiluted respect or call for marks of special honour from impartial and disinterested observers. Amongst his own countrymen in the South the sentiment entertained towards him is anything but favourable. Those who are progressive in their ideas look upon him as the man who has done more than any one else to prevent the opening up and improvement of China, while all alike, whether progressive or otherwise, regard him as primarily responsible for the deep humiliation his country has lately suffered at the hands of her smaller neighbour. In that opinion we share. We are aware that foreigners in the North, who have been brought into personal contact with him, have formed quite a different estimate of His Excellency, and the Tientsin community the other day united almost as one man to do him honour. He has been called the BISMARCK of China and he undoubtedly possesses a keen intellect and strong power of will, but BISMARCK's name will live in history as that of a patriot, whereas LI's great gifts, though they have enabled him, by the methods usual amongst Chinese officials, to amass one of the largest private fortunes in the world, have not been used altogether for the service of his country. It is one of the marks of his genius that while exercising a most obstructive influence upon the development of China he has succeeded in getting himself accepted by many foreigners as a friend of progress, simply because he had to appear nominally at the head of what little movement was imposed upon an effete and corrupt Government by the force of circumstances. What became of his Peiyang Squadron and his coast defences when they were put to the test is too well known to call for special mention. Vast sums had been expended upon them, but they were rendered useless by the dry

rot of corruption. It has been urged in extenuation of Li's administration in these matters that he was unfortunate in his subordinates. But may not the saying "Like master like man" apply to the case?

(2nd April.)

With reference to LI HUNG-CHANG's failure to call upon the Governor during his passage through Hongkong certain facts have come to our knowledge which, though they in no degree modify the opinion we expressed of the Ambassador's conduct in yesterday's issue, it is right we should place on record in order that our readers may be in a position to judge for themselves. It appears that about a fortnight ago the Chargé d'Affaires at Peking notified the Governor that LI HUNG-CHANG would shortly be passing through the colony and suggested that it would be advisable to show him all possible courtesy. Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON circulated the despatch amongst the unofficial members of Council and consulted them as to the form of entertainment to be offered. The programme decided upon was an official landing in the morning, luncheon at Mount Austin Hotel (that place being decided upon in order that the Ambassador should have the opportunity of travelling by the tramway), a review of the garrison in the afternoon, and a dinner at Government House, to be followed by a reception and a dance. A telegram was sent on Wednesday, the 25th March, through the Consul-General at Shanghai, asking His Excellency if he would accept the entertainment proposed, and on the Friday a reply was received from the Consul-General saying Li might accept the first three items, namely, the official landing, the luncheon, and the review, provided his coming on shore would not entail quarantine at Singapore. Whether this provisional acceptance strictly required a reply or not may be a matter of opinion, but it was no doubt advisable to reassure His Excellency as promptly as possible on the question of quarantine. We believe Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON at once gave instructions to telegraph to Singapore for the requisite information, but unfortunately the reply was not received from the Straits Government until Saturday, when it was too late to transmit the information to Li at Shanghai, as his steamer had then left. Before leaving Shanghai the Ambassador is said to have caused a despatch to be sent to the Consul-General saying that as he had received no reply and as he was informed plague was raging in Hongkong he must reluctantly decline to avail himself of Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON's invitation. In ordinary course it might have been expected that this would have been promptly telegraphed to Hongkong, but this does not appear to have been done, and consequently the Governor was in ignorance until the steamer arrived of what the Ambassador's intention was. Had the Consul-General telegraphed the decision arrived at no preparations would have been made and some unpleasantness would have been spared. The neglect to do so is open to comment, and it may also be said that if it was intended to send an invitation to Li at all it would have been better to send it earlier than was actually done so as to afford more time for correspondence. But all that, according to our view, does not in any way affect the judgment to be passed on Li's conduct. His Excellency was met by the Governor's Aide-de-Camp immediately upon the arrival of the steamer and when he knew that his landing here would not entail quarantine at Singapore he might, had he been so disposed, have given effect to his con-

ditional acceptance of the invitation that had been sent to him at Shanghai, for he had no other calls upon his time or attention during the period of his stay in Hongkong. He was not entitled to infer any discourtesy from the failure to send him a second telegram and at the most ought to have ascribed it to nothing more than an accident, or an unintentional oversight. There was nothing to prevent his coming ashore there and then, or at any hour that was convenient to him. Fear of the plague or the failure to reply promptly to his telegram of conditional acceptance are evidently mere subterfuges intended to cover the real reason of his not landing. He is said to be very punctilious on points of etiquette and to entertain the idea that he should be treated according to Chinese etiquette rather than that he should adapt himself to foreign etiquette. If that position were conceded it might have been deemed the Governor's place to call in state on Li in the first instance, for Li no doubt would consider himself entitled to claim seniority of rank; but any idea of the Governor's paying the first call would have been entirely inadmissible even if it had been suggested. Another consideration that no doubt weighed with Li was that restrictions were placed by the French mail authorities on the number of his suite who would be permitted to land, on account of the quarantine restrictions at Singapore; he would only have been permitted to bring ashore with him a few of the superior officers of his suite and consequently would not have been able to make that imposing display in the eyes of the natives that a Chinese official loves. Had he been able to land under such circumstances as would have given the Chinese the idea that as the representative of the Emperor of China he was the Governor's superior in this colony he would possibly not have been reluctant to take advantage of the opportunity.

THE COLONIES AND IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

Under the heading of "One Queen, one flag, one fleet" there recently appeared in the *Daily Graphic* a series of letters by a correspondent signing himself "Splendid Isolation" which have attracted considerable attention. The correspondent commences by referring to the magnitude of the Empire, both as regards population and trade. There are in all, he says, 402,000,000 souls whose welfare is bound up with that of the flag; more than half the shipping and carrying trade, and probably quite half the wealth, of the world belong to us and our fellow subjects; yet, with certain comparatively trivial exceptions, the whole responsibility and expense of providing for the systematic defence of this huge inheritance fall upon, and are borne by, the 40,000,000 people inhabiting the United Kingdom. Some of the colonies maintain defensive forces of their own, and colonial volunteer contingents have before been seen fighting for imperial ends and would do so again should necessity arise, but "there is no existing organised union for Imperial Defence; and because there is no organised union we are in danger of wasting our strength whenever we may be called upon to put it forth." "Splendid Isolation" therefore suggests that instead of the fleet being as at present manned and officered almost exclusively from the population of the United Kingdom colonial training ships should be established, so that "we might in time see a large part of the Australian Squadron composed of vessels chiefly officered and manned by

"Australians; seven or eight hundred Canadians and Newfoundlanders in the North American Squadron; and so on." So much for the navy. With regard to the army the correspondent suggests that a Colonial Army Corps should be formed, with England as the normal seat of its mobile headquarters; that the colonies be severally invited to furnish one or more battalions, squadrons, companies, &c., so as to make up an army corps of the peace strength of our existing First Army Corps; and that they permit this corps to be at the service of the Empire at large for Imperial purposes subject to conditions to be arranged. The various contingents, it is suggested, might be provided by the establishment in the colonies of the system of linked battalions, and one of each pair of such battalions might be always on Imperial service, or lying in England awaiting it, while the other remained in its colony, where the dépôt would also be. It is calculated that if, in addition to the sums already dispensed by the colonies for defensive objects, an amount a little exceeding £2,000,000 a year were available, the cost of the proposed measures would be covered; and a scheme is suggested whereby this sum might be saved to the colonies and rendered available for the purpose of naval and military expenditure by a conversion of their debts with a British guarantee, which would result in a large reduction of interest.

Such is in brief the scheme suggested. The *Daily Graphic* sent an interviewer to obtain Lord WOLSELEY's opinion upon it and the Commander-in-Chief at once put his finger on its weak spot. The idea, his lordship said, was a splendid one, and he wished it could be realised, but, he continued, "My experience of the colonies, and especially of Canada, convinces me that it would be almost impossible to raise a permanent force for service wherever needed. The colonies have all the material for soldiers of the best type. In case of invasion threatening the integrity of the Empire, Canada, for instance, could put into the field a splendid army, and these troops would, I am convinced, fight to the last in defence of their country; but it can hardly be hoped that thousands of men in each colony would give up the occupations on which they depend for a livelihood in order to volunteer for military service. People who have gone to settle in Australia or Canada as farmers, or who are farmers by birth there, cannot be expected to leave their homes and postpone the development of their property during the period necessary for military training with an army corps. And the mechanic or labourer can generally earn such good wages that he is not likely to sacrifice them for the purpose of serving with the colours. There is no surplus population that can be relied upon to feed the ranks." If the men are not available the scheme necessarily falls to the ground. The colonies possess splendid fighting material, but it would only become available in such an emergency as would call out the Volunteers in Great Britain. Equitably, however, every part of the Empire ought to contribute to Imperial defence according to its means, if not in men then in money wherewith to pay men recruited in centres where labour is less valuable. That brings us to the military contribution question which has created so much bitterness in Singapore and, in a less degree, in Hongkong and Ceylon. No Government would think of trying to impose a compulsory military contribution on the self-governing colonies, but

under a scheme of Imperial federation the colonies themselves might be induced to recognise the justice of sharing in the burden of imperial responsibilities. The problem propounded by "Splendid Isolation" is one of extreme difficulty and its solution calls for the highest qualities of statesmanship, but the correspondent's own solution does not assist us much, though he has done good service in bringing the subject forward in such a way as to command widespread attention and intelligent ventilation.

THE SANITARY BOARD PAPERS.

The decision of the Government not to supply all the papers asked for by the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD in connection with the proposed reconstruction of the Sanitary Board is as surprising as it is unjustifiable. At the luncheon given to Sir CLAUDE MAC DONALD on Saturday the Colonial Secretary, in proposing "Success to Hongkong," said:—"Hongkong has not been established many years, but during those years it has proved itself a colony which can succeed. What that success may be owing to may be doubtful, but there can be no doubt about this fact, that it is due not only to the Army and to the Navy but to the energetic and go-ahead community inhabiting it. I feel certain that so long as this community is composed of inhabitants such as we see around us here to-day Hongkong will continue to develop with strides which will surprise us all." The go-ahead community referred to has a right to know what representations have been made to the Secretary of State to induce him to believe that as a community it is unfit or unable to take any part in the management of its own affairs. There can be nothing that ought to be considered confidential in the official correspondence that has passed; on the contrary, the commonest principles of fair-play demand that the community should be afforded an opportunity of knowing what has been said to its detriment and of replying to it if it so desires. Mr. WHITEHEAD has given notice of his intention to bring forward a resolution on the subject at the next meeting of the Legislative Council, but, as the Government has already announced its decision not to produce the papers asked for, the hon. member's resolution will no doubt be negatived by the official phalanx. The *venue* must then be moved to the House of Commons. The colony has friends in Parliament who will be glad to give their assistance in the matter and when the papers are asked for in the House no doubt they will be duly tabled, for there can be no high reasons of state to the contrary and their production could not in common fairness be denied. All that, however, will take time and in the meanwhile the Bill for the reconstruction of the Board may have been passed, unless the Government should wisely abandon the measure, which is scarcely probable. Then will be the time for the public unhesitatingly to declare itself. A suspending clause will no doubt be introduced, so that the Bill will not become law until it has received the sanction of Her Majesty, and this will afford the public an opportunity of petitioning against it. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN seems to have paid considerable attention to the grievances of the Uitlanders in the Transvaal, and he will not turn a deaf ear to the grievances of the British residents of this British colony. Like the Uitlanders, we have no measure of local self-government and we are called upon to pay extravagantly for the cost of an administration of whose form the majority

of the inhabitants disapprove. A few years ago a policy of economy in the administration was promised, but, as shown by the return laid on the table of the Legislative Council the other day, instead of a reduction having been effected the cost of salaries and pensions has risen to nearly a million dollars, and the colony is left without funds for the prosecution of urgently needed public works.

THE NEW BRITISH MINISTER TO PEKING.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC GATHERING.

Sir Claude MacDonald, the new British Minister to Peking, arrived in Hongkong on Friday afternoon by the P. and O. mail steamer *Pekin*. The boat was gaily decorated with flags, and as she steamed into the harbour Captain Sterling, the Governor's A.D.C., went alongside and boarded her, and before the Kowloon pier was reached the new British Minister and Lady MacDonald and child came off in the launch and landed at Murray Pier, a salute being fired by H.M.S. *Alacrity*. The distinguished party at once proceeded to Government House to call upon His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, whose guests they were until yesterday. On Saturday morning, at eleven o'clock, Sir Claude MacDonald had a private conference with the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. In the afternoon he was entertained to luncheon at the Hongkong Hotel by the Hongkong Branch of the China Association. About seventy gentlemen sat down to the luncheon, which was admirably served. Mr. Jackson presided, and he had on his immediate left His Excellency Sir Claude MacDonald, and on his right His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson. There were also present His Excellency Admiral Buller, His Excellency Major-General Black, Hon. W. M. Goodman (Acting Chief Justice), Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. F. A. Cooper, Hon. C. P. Chater, Hon. E. R. Bellios, Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, Hon. A. M. Thomson, Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Hon. Commander R. Murray Rumsey, Hon. C. McConachie, Commodore Boyes, Mr. Justice Wise, Lieut.-Colonel Faithfull, Captain Login, Captain Chichester, Captain Lang, Captain Sterling, Mr. E. D. H. Fraser (Vice-Consul, Canton), Mr. Werner (Vice-Consul, Macao), Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Mr. A. Coxon, Mr. F. Henderson (Hon. Secretary, Hongkong Branch of China Association), Mr. R. C. Wilcox (Secretary, Chamber of Commerce), Mr. E. W. Mitchell (Hon. Secretary, Hongkong Branch of Navy League), Mr. G. B. Dodwell, Mr. R. Shewan, Mr. J. H. Lewis, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. W. Poate, Mr. H. G. Dowler, Mr. R. M. Gray, Mr. R. L. Richardson, Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. G. Stewart, Mr. Murray Stewart, Mr. V. A. Caesar Hawkins, Mr. J. C. Peter, Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor), Mr. G. C. Cox, Mr. V. H. Deacon, Mr. M. D. Ezekiel, Mr. A. Ross, Mr. F. Dodwell, Mr. R. Cooke, Mr. Granville Sharp, Mr. W. G. Humphreys, Mr. F. W. Hall, Mr. W. R. Loxley, Mr. J. F. Broadbent, Amoy, Mr. J. W. Broadbent, Shanghai, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Shanghai, Mr. A. K. Travers, and others.

After a most excellent luncheon the CHAIRMAN proposed "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the other members of the Royal Family" and the toast was loyally honoured.

The CHAIRMAN then said—Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in proposing the health of His Excellency the Governor. We are glad to have his genial presence here to-day to do honour to His Excellency Sir Claude MacDonald. (Cheers). I ask you all to drink his health.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, on rising to respond, was received with enthusiasm. He said—I am very much obliged to the Chairman for proposing my health and to you, gentlemen, for drinking to it so cordially. Unfortunately, the Chairman in proposing my health has not given me a peg to hang a speech upon, and therefore I cannot say, as I intended to say, that I will post-

pone my reply till another occasion such as the transfer of His Excellency Sir Claude MacDonald to a higher sphere. We are met here this afternoon to do honour to Sir Claude MacDonald, and that toast will be fully expatiated upon by the Chairman. I think I may publicly say that I personally congratulate him upon his elevation to the high post of Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, and I think also from the short acquaintance I have had with him that Hongkong may congratulate itself also upon his selection to the high post, which I am sure he will ably fill. (Loud applause).

MR. FRANCIS—Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, and gentlemen—It has given me very great pleasure indeed to be called upon to propose the toast of the Naval and Military Forces of the Crown, and to be permitted to associate with this toast the names of H. E. the Vice-Admiral, Commander-in-Chief of this station, and H. E. Major-General Black. It is a toast—and the phrase has been used a hundred thousand times—which is always received with very great enthusiasm wherever Englishmen are collected together; but there are degrees and differences in the enthusiasm with which it is sometimes received. There are times and times; and it has happened in the history of England that different ideas have been entertained than those which, I am happy to say, are prevailing now. (Cheers). There was a time when the word "Empire" was almost tabooed, when our Colonies were forsaken, when the Navy and the Army were starved and neglected, and when we were unable to turn out a fleet which could have equalled that of our nearest neighbour. Thank God, those times have changed, and those ideas have been altered. (Hear, hear, and cheers). The word "Empire" is now a word, if I may so say, to charm by. Every attention has been given to strengthening the army and increasing the fleet, to making the fleet what it ought to be. (Applause). Quite recently in a book dedicated to the public, a statesman has used these words. He dedicated his book "to those who believe that the British Empire is, under Providence, the greatest instrument for good that the world has seen and who hold, with the writer, that its work in the Far East is not yet accomplished." (Loud cheers). In the papers by the last mail which brought us Sir Claude MacDonald, I find an account of a banquet given to South Australians in London at which His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan spoke, and he repeated that "under the British Crown there is now a population numbering a quarter of the population of the world, and there is placed within the reach of our English-speaking people a great power and a great influence for good and for civilisation, a power which ought to make for Christianity." He said "We had committed to us an enormous mission. We know not what the next century might bring forth, but it seemed to him that we were at present simply in the cradle of our existence; that we were welding together the force and intelligence of this great Empire in order to carry out that mission to the rest of the world, or, at all events, to a large portion of the world." (Loud applause). Our Empire, such as it is, and such as we hope it will be in the future, has been won by the exertions of our statesmen, our warriors, and our merchant adventurers—(hear, hear, and applause)—and great as has been the energy and ability, the skill and perseverance of those merchant adventurers whom we the members of the China Association represent here to-day, we could have done nothing without the support and the assistance of the navy and of the army (Cheers). The highways of the world have been kept clear for us by the navy; our possessions, once obtained, have been retained for us by the military forces of the Crown—(cheers)—and we, especially here in China, here in Hongkong, owe everything to the naval and the military forces of the Crown. (Renewed cheers). It was by force that China was opened to trade; it will be, for many years to come, by force alone that China will be kept open to trade. (Hear, hear). And much as we hope and expect from the intelligence and diplomatic ability of the honoured guest of this day—(cheers)—that gentleman will not regret to find and to have behind him, in all his intercourse with the Chinese Government, the force, the powerful force, represented here this day by

the Admiral or the force maintained constantly here in the colony under the command of the Major-General. (Cheers.) I ask you, therefore, gentlemen, to join me in drinking to the Naval and Military Forces of the Crown, to H.E. the Vice-Admiral, to H.E. the Major-General, and to the Officers of the Navy and the Army who add so much *agrément* to our existence in Hongkong. Gentlemen, the Navy and the Army (Loud applause.)

His Excellency Admiral BULLER, in replying for the Navy, said—Mr. Chairman, your Excellencies, and gentlemen, on behalf of the Navy I thank you for the cordial way in which you have received the toast of the Navy. Judging by the telegrams we have been receiving lately one would think we were approaching the typhoon season in every part of the world—(hear, hear, and laughter);—but I hope that, after all, it will be only a little storm in a teacup. (Applause.) But certainly it points to one thing, that England must look to herself and must keep up her forces, both naval and military, unless she wishes her course dictated to her by other Powers. (Cheers.) I had the pleasure of being in Hongkong over thirty-two years ago, and then the greatest cordiality existed between the community of Hongkong and the navy; and I thank the China Association on behalf of the navy for having invited us here to-day to this banquet. (Cheers.) I trust the cordiality between the navy and Hongkong will ever be maintained. (Loud applause.)

His Excellency Major-General BLACK, on rising to respond for the Army, was received with loud applause. He said—Mr. Chairman, your Excellencies, and gentlemen, it is very kind of you in thinking of the poor "sodgers"—(laughter)—when I know your attention is naturally directed otherwise. But the army, gentlemen, is simply the reflection of the nation. If the nation is firm and vigorous and determined to hold her own, the army will be found the fitting implement of her wishes. (Loud cheers.) If the nation is weak at the knees and the lion permits his tail to be twisted, I hope the army will not be such a just reflection of the nation. (Laughter and renewed cheers.) After forty years' service, the Duke of Cambridge has retired from the post of Commander-in-Chief, carrying with him into retirement the love and admiration of those who have served under him, and perhaps the main point in his favour is that he always resisted innovation for mere innovation's sake, but was always ready to advance the cause of true and just reform. (Cheers.) So it has happened that, except so far as numbers are concerned, the British army is abreast of the military organisations of other lands. (Applause.) To him has succeeded as Commander-in-Chief one who bears to that high office the confidence of all under his command. Lord Wolseley is a man of action and a man of thought, and I know that by his wise administration and by the qualities of the officers and men under his command the British Army will retain in time to come the reputation it has had in the past. (Cheers.) On behalf of the army I thank you, and for myself I thank you for the honour you have done me in coupling my name with this toast. (Loud applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—Your Excellencies and gentlemen, on behalf of the members of the China Association of Hongkong, it gives me great pleasure to welcome amongst us Sir Claude Maxwell MacDonald. We also wish to congratulate him on being appointed to represent Her Majesty in the great empire of China. (Cheers.) I need not say that Lord Salisbury paid him a very great compliment indeed when he selected him for this very important post—a post important at all times, but more especially important at the present time. (Applause.) Some of the older members of this community who will remember the young subaltern of the 74th Regiment were prepared to applaud the selection of Lord Salisbury, and they were convinced, and they are more convinced now, that His Lordship's faith will be abundantly justified. (Applause.) At the mention of the word China I am not disposed to exclaim "Ichabod." On the contrary, I am convinced that the "Middle Kingdom" is destined to play a great and important part in the history of the world. (Cheers.) I know a good deal of China and I know a good deal of Chinese—not of the

language, I may say—(laughter)—and I am convinced that a nation of 350,000,000 of intelligent sober people is a factor that ever must be most important in the highest politics. (Cheers.) To this great Empire Sir Claude MacDonald has been appointed to represent his Queen and his country. I do not know that a man could possibly have a very much higher calling. (Cheers.) He is not one, as the Scripture says, among ten thousand; he is one among a hundred millions, who has a chance of this kind. I think it does not need the gift of prophecy to say that the great influence he will wield will be in the cause of civilisation and of progress. (Cheers.) I can say, as it was at Tel-el Kebir, so will it be at Peking, Sir Claude MacDonald will do his duty with honour to himself and with advantage to his Queen and his country. (Cheers.) Your Excellencies, and gentlemen, I call upon you to drain a bumper to the success of Sir Claude MacDonald. (Loud applause.)

His Excellency Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD was received with loud and prolonged applause. He said—Mr. Chairman, your Excellencies, and gentlemen, I have to thank you most cordially and from my heart for the warm welcome you have given me here to-day and for the extremely enthusiastic manner in which you have drunk my health. As our genial Chairman—a very old and valued friend of mine—has pointed out, eighteen years ago I had the honour to serve Her Majesty as a subaltern of infantry in this colony, and now I am appointed to, and I have accepted, the doubly onerous and responsible post of Her Majesty's Minister at Peking. (Cheers.) I can assure you I have accepted this post with a full and deep sense of the great honour which has been conferred upon me and of the responsible, anxious, and important duties which are before me. In thinking over the future and the many anxious and serious questions which must arise, it has been a great comfort to me to think that if the China community of to-day is actuated by the same kindly feelings, by the same sympathetic good sense, which it was in days gone by, my task will be rendered very much easier and my anxieties very much less. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, from communications which I have received, amongst others the exceedingly warm welcome which I have had here to-day, I can say that though times have changed my friends have not—(applause)—and I am sure that if I fearlessly do what I consider right and best for the benefit of the general community I shall receive the cordial support of every individual member. (Loud applause.) Gentlemen, it would ill befit me here to address you in a political sense or to discuss with you, however slightly, the numberless and burning questions it will be my lot to look into, but I venture to remind you that our forefathers have here in the Far East handed down to us a legacy, commercial, industrial and political, which it is our bounden duty to maintain at all hazards. (Loud applause.) China is, as my good friend the Chairman has said, a great nation, but it is, so far as the possibilities of trade and commerce are concerned, still in its infancy. We must see that we make the most of these possibilities and also get our fair share of these possibilities. (Applause.) But we shall not do so, gentlemen, owing to competition, without a severe struggle, and it behoves every one of us, no matter in what capacity he may be, commercial or political, to stand and fight if necessary shoulder to shoulder as one family, firm to maintain and extend that noble legacy which our forefathers have handed down to us. (Loud applause.)

"For he's a jolly good fellow" was sung, and three cheers and a "tiger" were given for the new Minister.

Major-General BLACK—You forget the Highland honours. "I'll bet he's had his foot on many a table." (Laughter.)

Hon. W. M. GOODMAN—I have been asked on a moment's notice to propose a toast which I am sure will be received in this room with the greatest applause; the toast is that of "The China Association." (Cheers.) The China Association here is, I suppose, a branch of the greater institution in London. When they sought for a Chairman of the London institution they could not find anybody more acceptable than a Governor, a former Governor of the Straits Settlement, who was at one time Colonial Secretary

of this colony. (Cheers.) I do not think myself they could have chosen a better man than Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, because he has had a large experience of China, both here and elsewhere, and it must be always of great assistance to those who have to decide the great problems which come before Her Majesty's representative to be able to look to some institution which represents, and fairly represents, the opinions of those best qualified to form an opinion on these difficult subjects. The China Association, as I understand, consists mainly of the heads of the different houses and hong's which have every day these questions brought before them—questions of varied kinds, from the questions of transit passes and things of that kind up to the still more important questions which belong more to the higher places in politics. I am sure, gentlemen, it must be of great assistance to Her Majesty's representatives to feel that upon all these questions, instead of having to ask a great number of individuals, they can get information, and well procured and well-founded information, from representative bodies such as the China Association. Personally, as the guest to-day of the China Association, I can only express my great thanks on behalf of myself and other guests for the admirable entertainment they have given us, and for the opportunity they have given us to welcome Her Majesty's representative. (Cheers.) In proposing the toast of the China Association I have much pleasure in coupling with it the name of Mr. Henderson, who is well known, and who has done yeoman service in his time. (Loud applause.)

Mr. F. HENDERSON—In the name of the members I beg to thank you for the flattering terms in which you have referred to the China Association. Had I been aware that this compliment was to be paid to us I should have come provided with a statement of facts as to what we have done, and perhaps with a still longer statement of facts as to what we have left undone. (Laughter.) Speaking for this branch of the Association, we are at present still in a callow stage, and the words which have fallen from the lips of Mr. Goodman are very encouraging, and I am certain that they will prove an incentive to us to make yet further efforts even to the extent of disturbing Her Majesty's representative at Peking and of laying before him our grievances. (Laughter and cheers.) Hongkong is very much like individuals, and takes considerable delight in airing its grievances, and we naturally suppose that as the colony extends the grievances will extend in the same proportion. (Laughter.) Many great measures have been associated with feasting. This is the first occasion upon which we have ventured upon strong food—(laughter)—and we are hopeful of the result. (Renewed laughter.) It has often been noticed that after the historical Whitebait dinner the members carried a dejected and almost sorrowful look which was very rightly attributed to their deep deliberations over national affairs on the previous night. (Laughter.) I think no happier opportunity could have been given to us for inaugurating a system of festivities than the present, which has given us the opportunity of welcoming Sir Claude MacDonald while passing through on his way from the darker side of nature to the Celestial Kingdom—(laughter)—and I feel perfectly certain that I am in no way over sanguine when I think and state that the Association on his return from Peking will take the opportunity of congratulating him upon his successful diplomatic career in China. (Loud applause.)

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART—Your Excellencies and gentlemen, at a second's notice I have been selected to propose a toast, but even at this short notice it gives me great pleasure in proposing it. I have been asked to propose "Success to Hongkong." (Cheers.) As one who has been, I won't say quite born here but brought up here, it is perhaps fitting that I should propose it, and I have great pleasure in doing so. Hongkong has not been established many years, but during those years it has proved itself a colony which can succeed. What that success may be owing to may be doubtful, but there can be no doubt about this fact, that it is due not only to the Army and to the Navy but to the energetic and go-ahead community inhabiting it. (Cheers.) I feel certain that so long as this community

is composed of inhabitants such as we see around us here to-day Hongkong will continue to develop with strides which will surprise us all. In addition to proposing success to Hongkong I have also been asked to propose the health of our worthy Chairman. (Loud cheers.) I can see from your applause, gentlemen, that "good wine needs no bush." It requires very few words from me to complete this very pleasant duty which has been assigned to me. I have—as I have already said—been asked to propose, "Success to this colony." That success is very closely connected with the good health of our Chairman. (Cheers.) There are very few institutions on this island better known than Mr. Thomas Jackson. (Cheers.) He is an exceedingly modest man—"Oh, oh" and laughter—and I do not propose on this occasion to enlarge upon his many good qualities, but I am certain I am expressing the opinion of you all when I express the hope that he will be allowed to remain with us not only for the three years which have been mentioned in other quarters but for many years—(cheers)—and that when the black day in the annals of this colony does come when he decides to transfer his useful energies to the West, he will leave behind him some one worthy to tread in his shoes. I ask you to drink success to this colony, coupled with the name of "T. J." (Laughter and cheers).

The company sang "For he's a jolly good fellow," and there were cries of "Good old Tom."

The CHAIRMAN, who was received with great enthusiasm, said—Your Excellencies and gentlemen, there is one fact that is abundantly patent to all of us to-day, and that is this, that there is very little of the gall of bitterness about and that there is a great deal of the milk of human kindness. (Cheers.) It has been well said that kindness is the gold of life, and I am only too pleased that Sir Claude MacDonald has been present here to-day to see that after all this little branch of the China Association is not only at one with the colony and the community, but that there is great kindness amongst its members, such as we have seen here to-day. (Applause.) In thinking of the China Association, I always feel that our numbers are few. Well, after all it takes only a very few ounces of gold to outweigh a great deal of lead; and if we have persuaded Sir Claude MacDonald on his passing through Hongkong that the China Association contains a few of the grains of gold that are in this colony, I think we have attained our object. (Cheers.) The colony itself is a very important little colony. I remember in the old days when Cyprus was acquired there was a great fuss about it. It was on the confines of Asia Minor. Well, your Excellency, this little island is not on the confines of Asia Minor but on the confines of Asia Major—the great Empire of China. I think we ought to be a little bit of a beacon here to show a light to all the country around. I hope the present residents and the future residents of Hongkong will try to be that and by example and precept will show the great Empire of China what British civilisation brings, and what it ought to bring. I do not think I can do better than to ask you to stand up and sing "Auld Lang Syne."

The company rose and sang "Auld Lang Syne" with great gusto, and so concluded one of the happiest and also one of the most important purely British gatherings ever held in the colony.

ARREST OF FOREIGN COMPRADORES IN FORMOSA.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
TAKOW, 31st March, 3.10 p.m.

Wholesale arrests of foreign compradores in the camphor districts are being made. Hongs are being closed, the contents confiscated, and the books seized by the Japanese authorities. Great excitement prevails.

MEDICAL INSPECTION IN JAPAN.

The following telegram was received by H.E. the Governor from Her Majesty's Minister to Japan yesterday:—

"Governor, Hongkong. Medical inspection enforced from to-day against all arrivals from Chinese ports.—SAROW, 6th April, 1896."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the afternoon of the 2nd April in the Council Chamber. Present:—

His EXCELLENCY the Governor, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, Acting Attorney-General.

Hon. A. M. THOMPSON, Acting Colonial Treasurer.

Hon. F. A. COOPER, Director of Public Works.

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY, Harbour Master.

Hon. COMMANDER W. C. H. HASTINGS, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police.

Hon. C. P. CHATER.

Hon. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Mr. F. J. BADELEY, Acting Clerk of Councils.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to lay upon the table Financial Minute No. 2 and to move that it be referred to the Finance Committee, a meeting of which will be held immediately after the Council.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Carried.

SANITARY BY-LAW.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the adoption of the amended by-law No. 21 of the by-laws made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, referring to the burial or cremation by the Sanitary Board of dead bodies of persons who had suffered from diseases specified in the Ordinance.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid upon the table the following papers—Statement of disbursements for forestry works in the years 1897 and 1898, statement of water account to 31st December, 1895, and financial returns for the year 1895.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

CAFFORESTATION DEPARTMENT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—With reference to the statement of disbursements for forestry works in the years 1897 and 1898 I have the honour, in accordance with the usual practice, to move—"That the Council having considered the statement by the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department resolves that it is expedient to incur the liability proposed to be incurred in 1898."

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Carried.

CATTLE DISEASE.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD gave notice of the following question:—Has the attention of the Government been directed to the account in the *Daily Press* of 16th ult. of the insanitary state of things during the recent fatal disease amongst the cattle at Pokfulam, and will the Government obtain from the Sanitary Board and the Government Departments concerned and lay upon the table a complete and detailed statement of the actual position of matters from day to day, as well as a copy of the correspondence between the Government and the Dairy Farm Co., Limited, together with the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon's reports for 1888 and 1889, also the report by the Hon. the Surveyor-General, the Hon. O. Chadwick, and Mr. Ladds referred to in his (Mr. Ladds) report dated 12th January, 1891.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

VETERINARY SURGEON.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD gave notice of the following question:—Will the Government inform the Council what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to secure the immediate services of a Veterinary Surgeon, and is it the intention of the Government to provide in future against the contingency of the Veterinary Surgeon going on leave?

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD gave notice of the following question:—Will the Government inform the Council the cause of delay in taking steps to obtain by public competition plans and

designs for the proposed new Government offices, including the Post Office, the Supreme Court, &c., as directed some time ago by His Excellency the Governor?

COST OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Will the Government lay upon the table a statement showing the total cost of the administration or the expenditure of the Government under the head of salaries, including allowances, pensions, exchange compensation, &c., for the year 1895?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In answer to that question I beg to lay upon the table the statement asked for.

THE SANITARY BOARD PAPERS.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Will the Government lay upon the table a copy of the papers or correspondence between the Colonial Government and the Home Authorities and all other documents, including the reports or written opinions of the unofficial members, in connection with and on the subject of the Sanitary Board and its reconstruction?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The answer to the former part of the question is no. In reply to the latter part I beg to lay upon the table the correspondence which has already been published in the Press and a copy of which the hon. member has already been furnished with.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Then, sir, I will now give notice that I will move a resolution at the next meeting of the Council for the production of all the papers, including those mentioned in a letter I addressed to the hon. Colonial Secretary yesterday. I will send in due course the words of the resolution I intend to move.

NATURALIZATION ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance for the naturalization of Lee Shew." I may mention that Lee Shew is 41 years of age. He was educated at San Francisco in the United States, and he is the managing partner in the Kwong Mi Yuen firm at 46, Winglok Street and a partner in the Yee Sang Lung firm at 77, Winglok Street, and he also possesses certain leasehold property in this colony. Mr. Lee Shew has resided in the colony for the past seven years and he has declared his intention of permanently residing here.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second.

Bill read the first time.

THE POSSESSION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

His EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, the second item on the agenda paper is the first reading of a Bill entitled "an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to the carriage and possession of arms and ammunition. I propose to withdraw that Ordinance from the list. It is a very delicate and a very difficult question and requires to be very carefully dealt with. You have seen from the newspapers that there has been an abnormal exportation of arms from the colony to Macao and probably to Canton, and I shall be very much obliged to the unofficial members if they will kindly act on a Committee to report to me on the subject. I propose that the Attorney-General, the Harbour Master, and Commander Hastings represent the officials, and I shall be obliged if Mr. Chater, Dr. Ho Kai, and Mr. Whitehead will agree to serve on the unofficial side to furnish a report and see what it is proper to do to supervise the exportation of arms and ammunition.

The unofficial members named signified their willingness to serve on the Committee, and His Excellency thanked them.

SEARCH WARRANTS ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill entitled "an Ordinance to provide for the issue of search warrants in the case of suspected coinage offences."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second.

Bill read the first time.

BUILDINGS AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill entitled "an Ordinance to amend the Buildings Ordinance, 1889." As I am desirous, if hon. members have no objection, to move the suspension of the standing orders in order that this Bill may go through the Council at this meeting, I will go into the matter in some detail. I think that the important points are mentioned in the statement of

objects and reasons appended to the Bill. From that statement of objects and reasons hon. members will see that the object of this Bill is to remove the prohibition contained in section 67 of the Buildings Ordinance, 1889, against the sinking of a well within the curtilage of any building. Such a prohibition has been found to be very inconvenient in practice, and I may mention that at the present time there is an application being made to the Hon. Director of Public Works for permission to sink a well within the precincts of a building, but he does not consider that he has power to grant the permission, as the law stands at present. The Bill also abolishes the requirement, which it is in some cases impossible or impracticable to carry out, that a well "shall be surrounded with a brick and cement parapet-wall at least two feet and nine inches thick." I am informed by the Director of Public Works that in some cases it is impossible to carry that out, and therefore it is desirable for the law to be amended by abolishing the requirement. The provisions for the exclusion of surface-water and the conveyance of drip or waste water are slightly amended. The only other point is that under section 67 of Ordinance 15 of 1889 it is provided that it shall not be lawful for the owner of any building to sink any well. I propose to amend the Ordinance so that it shall not be lawful for the owner of any building or land to sink a well, as it is thought desirable that the prohibition against the sinking of wells, except by leave of the Director of Public Works, should be binding on the owner of any land as well as on the owner of any building, and this Bill accordingly so provides. I think that those are all the points in which this section differs from section 67 of Ordinance 15 of 1889, and with these few remarks I beg to move the first reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second. As the object of this Ordinance is to meet the convenience of the public I trust there will be no objection to having it passed to-day.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I am very pleased to see this Bill introduced. It will help the public immensely.

Bill read the first time.

Suspension of standing orders.

Bill read the second time.

Council went into Committee and the Bill was reported without amendments.

Council resumed and Bill read the third time and passed.

THE LICENSING CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to supplement the provisions of the Licensing Consolidation Ordinance, 1887. A statement containing the objects and reasons is attached to the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second.

Bill read the first time.

THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to the registration of births and deaths. Hon. members will find that they are supplied with a separate sheet showing the amendments which I propose to move in Committee. The reason for making the amendments is that Chinese marriage customs are very different from ours, and there might possibly be a question in the case of children of Chinese parentage whether those children were legitimate or illegitimate according to English law.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Before seconding the motion I would suggest that perhaps it would be more convenient if the Bill were referred to the Law Committee, which might consider it and bring up their report.

The Bill was thereupon referred to the Law Committee.

THE FACTORS ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to factors.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second. Bill read the third time and passed.

THE SALE OF GOODS ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the third reading of the Bill entitled an

Ordinance for codifying the law relating to the sale of goods.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second.

Bill read the third time and passed.

SUITORS FUNDS ORDINANCE.

Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the law as to certain moneys paid into the Supreme Court or to the Registrar thereof.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Hon. members will recollect that on the last occasion the adjournment of the present matter in Committee took place upon the suggestion of the Colonial Treasurer that it would not be in accordance with the instructions from the Secretary of State to omit from the provisions of the Bill moneys coming into the hands of the Registrar as official trustee or official administrator. Since this matter was last before the Council I have spoken to the hon. Colonial Treasurer, and I understand that he is now convinced that the fears he then entertained are groundless and that this Bill may safely be passed in the amended form without infringing any of the instructions issued by the Secretary of State. As a matter of fact, as I stated at the last meeting of the Council, there are special Ordinances relating to the moneys going into the hands of the official trustee or official administrator. A good many amendments will have to be made in Committee in consequence of this, and also a few amendments on minor points. I may state that I have had an opportunity of considering the Bill with the Acting Chief Justice and he considers with me that the amended form will meet the instructions from the Secretary of State.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER said he was quite satisfied.

The title of the Ordinance was amended so as to read—An Ordinance to amend the law as to the moneys of suitors paid into the Supreme Court, and other amendments were made.

Council then resumed, and the standing orders were suspended and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

His EXCELLENCY—There will be a meeting of the Finance Committee now. I propose we adjourn until this day fortnight.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—Before we adjourn I would like to call your Excellency's attention to the fact that Thursday afternoon is very inconvenient to us. There is always a meeting of the Hongkong Bank at the same hour, and it would be a great convenience to us if you could fix some other day.

His EXCELLENCY—Friday, the 17th April, will do then.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council meeting. The COLONIAL SECRETARY presided, and all the members were present.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN—The only minute I have to bring before you is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to re-vote the following sums:—(1.) \$2,215.40 being the unexpended balance of the vote of \$6,000 for the erection of the statue of Her Majesty the Queen. (2.) \$1,464.99, being the unexpended balance of the vote of \$5,000 for additional quarters at the Central Police Station. These sums were voted last year but not expended, and it is now necessary to bring them before the Committee in order that they may be re-voted.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I should like to know, in reference to the first item, when it is likely that the statue will be ready for unveiling.

The CHAIRMAN—No doubt the hon. Director of Public Works will give us the information.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—In about a month or six weeks.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I want to know whether it will be ready for unveiling before the Queen's birthday. The community are anxious to know.

The CHAIRMAN—The Director of Public Works has informed us it will be ready within six weeks.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—That will be about the time.

The CHAIRMAN—Considerably before the time—a week or ten days before the time.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The work is progressing very satisfactory now and I see no reason why it should not be ready then.

Re-vote recommended.

The CHAIRMAN—This is all the business before the Committee.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

Memorandum on the military contribution by the unofficial members of the Legislative Council of Hongkong, submitted for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

When it was first proposed that the colonies should contribute towards the expenses incurred by the Imperial Government in the maintenance of a military force in the respective colonies, the inhabitants of Hongkong cheerfully acquiesced, and the members of Council readily voted the sum of £20,000 a year—the amount originally levied on this colony. When the military contribution was raised from £20,000 to £40,000 on the promise of a larger garrison to be stationed here the Council voted the increase without hesitation, and there was no opposition until it was discovered that the enhanced contribution was claimed and insisted upon before any addition had been made to the forces in garrison or any extra expense incurred by the Imperial Treasury on that account. Latter on when the heavy fall in exchange, while leaving the sterling amount of the contribution untouched, had raised its equivalent in dollars to an amount wholly out of proportion to the revenues of the colony—from \$254,211.00 in 1891 to \$384,000.00 in 1895—the Secretary of State was respectfully requested to reconsider the whole subject and to reduce the amount of the military contribution to a figure which would re-establish something like a reasonable proportion between the general revenue and the military tax. The same question was raised at the same time in the Straits Settlements and in other Crown Colonies, and was so strongly pressed on the attention of the Imperial Government that within the last year it was determined to accept from the Eastern colonies a fixed percentage of their revenues instead of claiming from them each year a sterling amount of an invariable character.

For the Straits Settlements and for Hongkong the proportion of the military contribution to the general revenue was fixed at 17½ per centum, and in the adjustment of the amount to be paid for the current year the question at once presented itself in both colonies as to what constituted general revenue. In the Straits Settlements it was conceded by the Secretary of State that the municipal revenue raised in Singapore should not be included in the general revenue of the Straits Settlements for the purpose of calculating the amount of the military contribution. So far as Hongkong was concerned the Colonial Office decided that the 17½ per cent. was to be taken out of the gross total revenue, deducting only the amounts received as premia on the sale of Crown lands, and that there was no deduction to be allowed on account of items of revenue claimed to be of the same class and character as those exempted from taxation in Singapore as being purely municipal.

Municipal revenue is revenue raised in a city or town for the purpose of defraying the expenditure necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the city or town. It is levied on the inhabitants of the city or town, and no one who resides outside its limits is called upon to contribute. It differs in this from general revenue, which is chargeable on all persons within the territory alike whether resident in or out of the town, and which is applicable for all purposes and not confined to purely local expenditure. As a general rule municipal revenue is collected and disbursed by a different authority from that which receives and expends the general revenue of a colony or a territory, but this fact is immaterial. The true criterion of a municipal tax is the limitation of the area within which it is collected and applied.

Although the city of Victoria has no municipal government, and although all taxes are levied and collected by the general Government

of the colony, there are nevertheless items of revenue which are distinctly municipal within the above definition and not general. The assessed taxes (police, lighting, fire brigade, and water rates) afford a perfect illustration. Every house in the colony pays 7 per cent. on the annual valuation towards the general expenses of the Colonial Government. Houses in the hill district and part of Kowloon pay 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Houses in the city of Victoria pay 13 per cent., which is apportioned as follows:—Police 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., water 2 per cent., lighting 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and fire brigade $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The extra percentages are clearly municipal rates, just as much as if they were levied by and paid to separate municipalities. They are charged upon limited classes of persons, and for limited purposes, to defray expenditure wholly incurred within the localities named.

The revenues derived from the sale of night-soil under contracts for its removal from the city of Victoria constitute also a distinct item of municipal revenue. The proceeds are applied solely for the benefit of the city and of its inhabitants in providing for the cleansing of the streets and for the removal of rubbish and dirt having no money value to the collector of it.

The eastern, central, and western markets are within the city and are solely for the use of the city and its inhabitants. If a municipality were established here the markets would be handed over to it as undoubtedly municipal property. The rents derived from the letting of stalls in these markets is therefore municipal not general revenue.

In like manner with other items. A careful examination of the revenue returns and of the Ordinances under the authority of which many items of revenue are raised will show that they are only leviable within the city of Victoria and in so far are distinctly municipal and not general revenue and therefore not fairly, or in accordance with the principle applied in the Straits Settlements, chargeable in respect of the military contribution.

The fact of Hongkong not having a Municipal Council should not militate against the colony being as fairly treated as we would be if we had one.

The unofficial members of Council desire further to call the attention of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State to one or two other points in connection with the military contribution which were overlooked in the discussions in Council on the subject, in view of the much greater importance of the question of municipal revenue, and which in their opinion afford just grounds for a reduction of the amount:—

1.—The 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. should be calculated on the general revenue of the colony, less the amount recently raised to defray the military contribution itself, otherwise the colony is paying not only on its ordinary revenue but in addition on the amount of extra revenue specially raised to defray the military contribution itself.

2.—The Post Office is an Imperial establishment in fact, if not in name, and is also an international institution in so far as it works in connection with the Postal Union. It has branches outside of the colony in various parts of China. It derives a revenue from them and defrays certain expenditure on their account. A large portion of the Post Office revenue (so called) is collected on account of the Imperial Government or of the Postal Union, and brings no profit to this colony whatever. Such monies form no portion of the revenue of this colony and ought to be thrown out of account, it is submitted, in the calculation of the gross revenue taxable for the military expenses.

3.—In the estimates for the current year (1896) there appear to be items included on the revenue side of the account which do not represent any real receipts by the Treasury. Several of the departments are charged, for the convenient keeping of the water account, with annual sums for the water they consume.

Post Office	\$ 100.00
Botanical and Afforestation	600.00
Education	100.00
Hospital	1,000.00
Police	1,500.00
Gaol	800.00
Sanitary, Water for Markets	2,000.00
Watering Streets	1,000.00

These departments do not, in fact, pay any money. If they do, it is money out of the public Treasury. Such items are only book entries and should not be allowed to swell the gross total of the general revenue, for the purposes of the military contribution tax.

4.—There are other items to the amount of about \$46,000 classed last year and in former years as "Appropriations in Aid," and which were deducted from the gross expenditure in order to arrive at the amount of revenue to be raised, but which are used this year to swell the gross revenue. These are not in any true sense revenue at all. They are receipts which render it necessary to raise less revenue annually. Such as the proceeds of the convict labour in the gaol. The amounts recovered from diplomatic, naval, and military departments, seamen and debtor's, towards the gaol expenses. The contribution from the Imperial Post Office. The grant-in-aid from the Admiralty towards the Lock hospital. The contribution from the Chinese Government towards Gap Rack light. Refunds of police pay, and of cost of police stores, &c. Sick stoppages from the police force, and other items of the same character.

5.—There is another noteworthy item which ought to be deducted from the gross total. The Colonial Secretary estimates that during the year 1896 the Treasury will have to refund to the payers some \$15,000 out of revenue received, i.e., that the revenue to be received will be some \$15,000 less in fact than he estimates it at. These \$15,000 should clearly be deducted.

6.—Lastly, the monies raised annually for the payment of interest on loans, and for the purpose of maintaining sinking funds for the repayment of these loans ought not to be made liable to the military tax. Such loans were raised on the security of the colony's capital in land unsold, in its waterworks, markets, &c., and are part of its capital. The revenues now raised from the water rates, central market, &c., are charged specifically with the repayment of the debts incurred in respect of the waterworks, market, &c., and with the interest on the loan. The amounts so collected are not ordinary but extraordinary revenue, and will cease and determine when the specific purpose for which they were improved have been accomplished. The Government is bound by a distinct agreement in respect of the light dues, which interfere with the complete freedom of the port. If there is any profit to the colony after payment of interest and after provision of sinking fund that is revenue and clearly liable, but otherwise not.

The unofficial members of Council respectfully request that the amount of the military contribution for 1896 may be reconsidered and that the Secretary of State would be pleased to give specific directions on all the points herein raised.

(Signed) C. P. CHATER.

HO KAI.

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

E. R. BELLIOS.

J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Hongkong, 31st March, 1896.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD AND THE SANITARY BOARD PAPERS.

The following is the letter addressed by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead to the Colonial Secretary with reference to the Sanitary Board papers, to which reference was made at the last meeting of the Legislative Council:—

Hongkong, 1st April, 1896.

DEAR SIR,—I duly received your No. 446 of 20th ulto., enclosing copy letter from the Chamber of Commerce dated 19th October, 1894, copy letters from Mr. Bellios and Mr. Keswick, copy minutes by Mr. McConachie and Mr. Chater, copy memorandum by Dr. Ho Kai, and extract from the Retrenchment Committee's report, respecting the reconstruction of the Sanitary Board, which I note are to be laid before the Legislative Council when it next meets.

The letters, minutes, and memorandum from the unofficial members all refer to a proposal or recommendation, presumably from the Government, giving the lines on which the Sanitary

Board should be reconstructed, viz., three Government officials and two unofficials. I should be much obliged by your furnishing me with a copy of the communication in question. I understand it was a letter addressed by His Excellency the Governor to the Honourable the Senior Unofficial Member.

The question of which I gave notice at last meeting of Council calls for the correspondence between the Colonial Government and the Home Authorities, and all other documents, and I sincerely hope the Government will not fail to publish all the papers on this very important question.

It would also be highly desirable that the correspondence and report in the possession of the Government in connection with proposals made for the reform of the Sanitary Board in the time of Governor Sir Wm. des Vœux and Administrator now Sir Francis Fleming be laid upon the table.—Yours very truly

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Colonial Secretary.

THE COST OF ADMINISTRATION.

The following return of the expenditure on account of salaries, pensions, and exchange compensation for 1895 was laid before the Legislative Council on the 2nd April:—

Salaries, including Allowances	\$751,160.37
Pensions	112,776.97
Exchange Compensation	119,415.52

Total. \$983,352.86

A. M. THOMSON,
Acting Treasurer.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1896.

THE PLAGUE.

We regret to state that eighteen cases of bubonic plague were recorded in the colony between noon on Friday and noon on Saturday, and the total for the year now reaches 383. Saturday's number is the highest reached in one day during this year and is a very serious matter considering the many precautions taken by the Sanitary Board to prevent the spread of the disease. It should be said that the cases did not come from one particular area; they came from various parts of the colony, so it cannot be said that the plague is epidemic. But of course there is no denying the fact that the exceptionally large number of cases recorded is a serious thing, although it might be urged as a soother that the daily average for the year is only four. It seems that, notwithstanding the denials of Chinese, plague is making rapid headway in Canton. The British Consul at Canton sent the Government word that the disease was very prevalent in that city, and in consequence of this authentic report a special meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Thursday last to consider what steps should be taken. It was decided to erect reception places for the inhabitants of those houses in the colony in which plague broke out. These places, which will probably take the form of mat sheds in various parts of the colony, will be utilized by those inhabitants who care to temporarily reside there while their houses and clothing are being disinfected. Those people who prefer to go to Canton can do so, but they will be told of the great danger they run, and it is to be hoped they will see the wisdom of remaining in the colony.

Some consternation and indignation prevail amongst Peak residents owing to the Government Villas having been selected as a place of segregation for a European family, two of whose children died from plague. It seems that there is no real segregation and that the remaining children are allowed to go out to play, with the risk of conveying the infection to other children living at the Peak. Presumably the authorities do not consider the risk a serious one, but the Peak residents are greatly incensed at the action taken.

Ten cases were reported on Sunday and fourteen on Monday, and nine on Tuesday. It is expected that the reception sheds will be finished in a day or so.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD ON THE AFFAIRS OF THE COLONY.

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

The following documents have been handed to us for publication:—

Hongkong, January 20th, 1896.

Sir,—We have very much pleasure in handing you the accompanying address of welcome from your fellow colonists, which sufficiently speaks for itself, without further comment from us.—Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) GEO. B. DODWELL.

(Sd.) GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

To the Honourable T. H. Whitehead.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO THE HONOURABLE T. H. WHITEHEAD.

To the Honourable

Thomas Henderson Whitehead,
Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, Hongkong,

Sir,—We, the undersigned residents in Hongkong, beg to offer you a very hearty welcome on the occasion of your return amongst us.

We are well aware of the immense amount of time and trouble which, during your stay in England, you devoted to furthering the interests of the colony.

You left here on a well earned holiday, but as your energies were given up during almost the whole of that period to public work in our behalf, we wish, not only to tender you our thanks, but also to convey to you how highly we appreciate the able manner in which you dealt with the subject of extended local self-government, and the more intricate subject of the trade of the Far East.

We believe that your speeches and publications will bear fruit at no distant date; and we hope that you may continue to interest yourself in the public affairs of the colony so long as we have the privilege of counting you among our fellow-citizens.

(Here follow 280 signatures.)

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD'S REPLY.

Hongkong, 31st March, 1896.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of 20th January last, handing me an address of welcome from my fellow-residents, was duly received, but pressure of business has, I greatly regret, unavoidably prevented my sooner acknowledging its receipt.

The community's cordial expression of thanks, and appreciation of my efforts when in England on behalf of the colony, and endeavours to obtain for the people their right to have some share in the administration of their communal affairs, are deeply gratifying. They were specially acceptable at the time of their receipt, as I had then been subjected to what, I am sorry to say, appeared to me and to many others to be a deliberately prepared, unexpected, and utterly unprovoked attack made upon me in Council in December last, by His Excellency the Governor and by the Colonial Secretary, because I endeavoured to obtain for the members of Council and for the public information on public affairs to which they were entitled and which the Government should not withhold, but should communicate unasked.

Will you bear with me while I try to give a brief history of the petition to the House of Commons. It aimed at obtaining a reasonable share of local government, so far as was consistent with Imperial interests. Such a concession would have given the desired control over local and municipal matters, as well as a consultative voice on Imperial questions, but such rights were to be subject to the Governor's veto, the paramount control resting with the Imperial Government. These privileges are enjoyed by other Crown Colonies, of far less importance than Hongkong, viz., Malta, Cyprus, Mauritius, British Honduras, and others. If conceded to Hongkong and subject to the Governor's veto, they could be no more dangerous here than the rights extended to the colonies before-mentioned, or to the much greater ones of self-government in Cape Colony, where also there is an overwhelming preponderance of the native element.

On my departure from Hongkong for Europe in May, 1894, further signatures were being added to the copies lying at various public places in the colony, and Mr. Francis, Q.C.,

undertook to forward the petition in due course. The bubonic plague developed at that time, and soon thereafter attained grave dimensions, very largely in consequence of vast accumulations of filth which official negligence alone had permitted. The Sanitary Board could not be held to blame under the circumstances, as the Government had persistently withheld from the Board the adequate staff and machinery to carry on the necessary work and effect the pressing and urgently required sanitary reforms. Mr. Francis's time and energies were completely absorbed with the responsible and heavy duties devolving upon him in his position as Chairman of the Permanent Committee of the Board, and, in consequence, the forwarding of the petition was delayed. It did not reach England until 24th September, 1894, when Parliament was in vacation, and the House did not resume its sittings until 5th February, 1895.

I may here be permitted to remark that the Community is under great obligations to the members of the Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board and to the self-sacrificing labours of the soldiers, sailors, and civilians who voluntarily battled with the disease, and for their invaluable services, for it was mainly their strenuous efforts and theirs alone which broke the neck of the plague.

Soon after the opening of Parliament Mr. Henniker-Heaton asked certain questions, and presented our petition to the Commons on 21st March of last year. Mr. Henniker-Heaton's endeavours on behalf of Hongkong were many and unceasing, his great services were most cheerfully rendered, and he thoroughly deserves your hearty and most grateful thanks. At the Honourable Member's special request our memorial was read by the clerk of the House, Sir Reginald Palgrave, though such a course is contrary to the usual practices of the House.

On the same evening I addressed a letter to the *Times*, advocating to the best of my ability your just and reasonable claims, but owing to pressure upon its columns it could not then spare space. Shortly afterwards, however, a brief leader appeared in its columns in connection with our petition, containing inaccurate and misleading statements. I thereupon asked for a fair field, and appealed to the *Times* and the traditions of that great paper for a full and patient hearing. The Colonial Editor granted me several meetings, mentioned that they regarded their information as reliable when their editorial was written, and that at the Colonial Office it was understood the Home Government had decided to grant two more unofficial members on our Legislative Council. I was led to believe that if a condensed letter was sent in, the *Times* would endeavour to find space for it, and this, dated 10th April last, appeared in their issue of the 16th of that month.

Lord Ripon, then Colonial Minister, granted me three interviews, and at the first of these I understood from him that two more unofficial members would be appointed to the Legislative Council. At a later meeting His Lordship seemed less decided, but he promised that two unofficial members would be appointed to the Executive Council. He then further pledged himself to most favourably reconsider our claim for the appointment of two more unofficial members to the Legislature.

On the 9th of May I had the honour of addressing the Members of the Colonial Party in one of the Committee rooms of the House of Commons on the subject of the Petition, and it is gratifying to know that we have the earnest sympathy and warm support in our endeavours for reform of many Members of Parliament, including Sir John Gorst, Mr. Henniker-Heaton, Sir George Baden Powell, General Sir J. Bevan Edwards, Mr. Arnold Foster, Mr. W. W. MoArthur, Junior Lord of the Treasury in the late Government, Mr. E. R. P. Moon, Mr. J. F. Hogan, the Secretary of the Colonial Party in the House, and others.

Mr. Sidney Buxton, M.P., Under Secretary for the Colonies in the last Parliament, I also saw repeatedly, and before leaving home I wrote to him as follows on 18th May last:—

"Dear Mr. Buxton,

"On the eve of my return to the Far East via America and Canada, I feel it my duty to again thank you most heartily for your unvarying kindness to me during my stay in this country.

"I am returning to Hongkong with the full assurance that the small concessions foreshadowed by Lord Ripon, at the interview which His Lordship honoured me with on Saturday, 11th instant, will be granted in a generous spirit. These are two unofficial members on the Executive Council, and two more unofficial members on the Legislative Council. This is not what the people of Hongkong asked for, but it will strengthen the local Colonial Government and leave the casting vote with the Governor. This small concession has taken a weight off my mind, &c., &c."

The lecture which I delivered in February of last year on "The critical position of British Trade with Oriental Countries" under the auspices of the Royal Colonial Institute well repaid the labour its preparation involved, inasmuch as it proved to me a no mean education on one of the most important questions of the day, and provoked an exhaustive and weighty discussion.

At the first meeting of Council after my return, I asked the Government for the correspondence which had passed between the Home and Colonial Authorities, including the Colonial Secretary's exhaustive memorandum on our petition, but the Governor still withholds and refuses to publish the papers. From that day to this nothing further has been heard of your petition and no alteration whatever has been made in the constitution of either Council.

Permanent officials in Downing Street dislike the growth of any influence calculated to decrease the powers and patronage they have hitherto so long exercised and enjoyed, hence their determined opposition to the British residents here being conceded any share in the administration of the ordinary and local affairs of the Island, and the cordial support they have received from the authorities in the colony. The combined action of the home and colonial officials has, for the present, undoubtedly blocked the progress of our reform movement, which had the support of the vast majority of Hongkong's best men, including those who have a close acquaintance with local needs and requirements. I refer more particularly to men of the calibre of Mr. Thomas Jackson, who was among the first to sign the petition, and who has rendered very important service to the colony over a long period of years. I well remember his informing me at the time that after careful perusal of the petition he considered it a very moderate and a very able document, and that he did not see how any independent man could have any objection to supporting it. That the opinions and wishes of such men—the chief mainstays and pillars of the colony—should have been thwarted is to be deplored, but the seed which has been sown, though it may temporarily appear to have fallen on stony ground, will yet bring forth fruit in season. The worst feature is that we are unable to ascertain upon what grounds the local Government have opposed our petition or for what reasons the Colonial Office staff have joined forces with them. There is an absolute refusal to produce the correspondence, which disables us from meeting the arguments against us, either by denial, by explanation, or by concession. In spite, however, of temporary discouragement there is reason to hope for some success so long as the conspicuously able and enlightened Mr. Chamberlain, a man of action and a man of thought, a real living man, fills the post of Colonial Minister.

Hongkong was created a Crown Colony in 1841, and Captain Elliot, its first Administrator, wisely and rightly recognised that Hongkong could be made to prosper only by keeping sacredly inviolate its character as a free port, and by governing the colonists on principles of constitutional liberty. It is to be regretted that Captain Elliot was called away for other service before he could give full effect to the principles on which he established the Government, and which unfortunately have not been continued.

There are increasing and almost daily, proofs of the pressing and absolutely urgent necessity for a form of Government which will yield the British residents some voice in respect of their communal affairs. Had this been granted in bygone years it is possible that the legacy of insanitation throughout the city which the present generation has fallen heir to might have

been somewhat less onerous than it now is. The system of Government established in 1841 may then, when the colony was in its infancy, have been the most convenient and the most suitable. With the totally different and altered circumstances, and the completely changing conditions of the times and things generally, the old system has grown inapplicable. It is also much too expensive.

Sir William Robinson, in July, 1892, publicly informed the community that he had been the financial Saviour of three colonies—Bahama, Barbadoes, and Trinidad,—that he did not despair of rescuing Hongkong from its financial difficulties, and of meeting with success in his administration. His Excellency also held out hopes of being able to show in a few months from that time a prospective annual saving in the cost of government of \$60,000 a year. Has any such saving or retrenchment been accomplished? No; the cost of government has risen from \$547,650 in 1887 to \$758,139 in 1891, and to the unprecedented amount of \$983,352.86 for 1895. Instead of diminishing taxation it has had to be increased, to meet the ever-expanding cost of administration, and the Government's half-hearted advocacy of the interests of the colony in respect of the military contribution has resulted in Hongkong being saddled with an inequitable and heavy charge far heavier than it would have been had we possessed the advantages of a Municipal Council. See the memorandum of the unofficial members of Council to the Secretary of State for the Colonies of this date.

The meanest Roman citizen had the right of appealing to Cæsar against official oppression. In the modern British Empire the "Cæsar" to which we appeal is public opinion. Against that force happily injustice cannot long stand. It is studied by statesmen as anxiously as the winds and currents by sailors, and it controls even Parliament itself.

The desire on the part of the Hongkong people for a reasonable control over their municipal affairs is most natural, for the sanitary condition of the city could not well be worse than it has been, and unfortunately still is, while ingrained red tape and official routine is too much in evidence in most departments. The general position and outlook does not tend to create or inspire implicit confidence, and consequently new enterprises are thereby to some extent deterred from starting. Trade and local industries already established cannot claim to receive the due encouragement they deserve at the hands of officialism.

The belief is slowly but steadily gaining ground throughout the colony that the community will not rest satisfied until the British residents are allowed to enjoy the privilege of managing their municipal and sanitary affairs. There is nothing new or presumptuous in the movement in favour of communal reform. Every Englishman, as a matter of course, looks for the privilege of being permitted to manage his municipal affairs, as it is his inalienable birth-right, but it is denied him in Hongkong.

Speaking at the Royal Colonial Institute last month on "National Defence," Sir George Clarke said—

"Burke plainly foresaw what has now come to pass when he wrote—'I was ever of opinion that every considerable part of the British dominions should be governed as a free country; otherwise, I knew that if it grew to strength and was favoured with opportunity it would soon shake off the yoke intolerable in itself to all liberal minds, and less to be borne from England than from any country in the world.' Free institutions established in the Mother Country must, as Burke foretold, be reproduced and extended in her colonies; but this knowledge was purchased by the nation at a heavy cost—the loss of America. It is perhaps because France and Germany, our rivals as colonising powers, have not yet attained to freedom as we understand the word, that they have so far entirely failed to create a single real colony."

Summaries of several of the numerous grievances which the mercantile and Chinese community have given expression to from time to time and on sundry occasions, commencing as far back as in 1842, are to be found in Dr. Eitel's recently published and most excellent

History of Hongkong. (See pages 202, 225, 260-263, 322, 507, and 574.)

A Select Committee of the House of Commons was appointed in March, 1847, to enquire into British commercial relations with China, &c. The evidence and the report are interesting reading, and contain a serious and weighty condemnation of the administrative policy of the Government of Hongkong of that day.

The final report of the Parliamentary Committee urged upon the Imperial Government the following, among other recommendations:—

"That a share in the administration of the ordinary and local affairs of the Island be given by some system of Municipal Government to the British residents."

Dr. Eitel, in his very able history of Hongkong, previously referred to, says at page 274:—"As to a British Municipal Council, it has to be noted that the history of this period (1873) emphatically contradicts one great objection to it, which Sir G. Bonham formulated by asserting that out here in the East, there is no leisured class, and that men of standing possess neither time nor inclination to devote to the interests of the public. The long continued and varied activity in purely public affairs, displayed during this period by individuals like J. Dent, Ph. Ryrie, J. Whittall, W. Keswick, and others, and most particularly the large share of attention and time which the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce devoted to questions of general policy, gives the lie to the assertion that the commercial men of this colony are unwilling to sacrifice their time and their strength to the management of communal affairs."

In addition to these the following names may be mentioned—Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., Mr. Richard Rowett, Mr. Bulkley Johnson, and there are others of whom any community has reason to specially and justly feel proud. Hongkong owes much of its material progress and importance to the great qualities with which Providence has endowed the Anglo-Saxon race, to the vigorous and continuous development of these qualities by successive generations, to the zealous industrial enterprise and the conspicuous ability of its citizens, many of whom show an almost unparalleled record of unabated activity.

It is to be regretted that successive Governors have not deemed it expedient to base their policy on the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee of 1847, or to administer the Government on popular principles, and to systematically sacrifice the individual views of Departments, which could have been done with advantage to the ratepayers, as was evidenced during Sir George Bonham's governorship, without any sacrifice to the dignity of the Government. The policy of the Government in connection with sanitary matters generally, the Sanitary Board, and its reconstruction, is unsatisfactory and is in every respect unworthy of an enlightened administration, completely at variance with the spirit of the times in which we live and move, and I believe contrary to public opinion and to the wishes of the majority of the residents, and absolutely opposed to the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee of 1847.

Public men do well to remember and to recognise the fact that the Press is now a great social, political, and moral power. It reflects public opinion and it also reflects the nation. It appeals to the sense and the judgment of the people, and its influence and teaching inspire the world. It cannot be disregarded, even by the Premier of England if he would comprehend the character of our United Kingdom or the nature of the processes by which the actions of a mighty Empire are directed. The just criticisms and the just censures of the Press are invaluable. They are the mirror through which man can acquire knowledge and can learn how to amend his faults, to avoid errors, utilise his abilities whatever they may be, and make them more available for doing more perfectly that which his hand findeth to do. The Hongkong Press has unanimously condemned the Government's retrograde policy in re the Sanitary Board.

The Governor in his opening address to the Council in November, 1894, said:—

"That a Sanitary Board meeting once a fort-

night could properly control and direct such a staff (the Sanitary staff). I do not believe, and that four or five independent gentlemen could be found who have the time and inclination to devote several hours daily to such a task is beyond the bounds of possibility."

I would earnestly urge and strenuously entreat the Government to look to Shanghai and there see a system of municipal administration, and one economically managed, which inspires implicit confidence, and which is wisely directed on thoroughly sound business principles by practical business men, members of the mercantile community and men of common sense, without the aid of a Governor and without the expense of an army of officials, giving good sanitation, unlimited freedom to foreigner and native, unrivalled expansion and prosperity in local industrial enterprise, profitable results in every direction, and at every turn, not surpassed anywhere in the wide world, and very seldom equalled. As to the quality and capacity of Hongkong men I would refer to the Colonial Secretary's recent speeches, and the high character he entertains regarding them. I would beseech His Excellency to reconsider the question, publish all the papers in connection with the Sanitary Board's original construction and reconstruction, and endeavour if possible to sympathise with the views of the ratepaying community, and with what they deem to be best for their own interests.

Your hearty and welcome words of encouragement and of appreciation of my work, in spite of the many drags and the many clogs on the wheels of local progress, will but inspire me with fresh vigour and increased energy. I realise in a deep sense your having honoured me with a renewal of your confidence. In addition thereto, it is gratifying to possess, as I conscientiously do, the full conviction that, notwithstanding my many shortcomings and the numerous mistakes I have made, my actions have ever been prompted by the desire to do only that which I believed to be most conducive to the public good and for the welfare of the community. While I have the pleasure of residing amongst you, my fellow-citizens may rest assured that I shall avail myself of every opportunity and will use every constitutional means to help forward the much-needed cause of reform in our antiquated system of government. To endeavour to contribute, in however small a degree, to promoting the general interests of the colony, in which I have had the good fortune to spend many of the best years of my life, is, I feel, my bounden duty. Such work tends to fit man for a life of some usefulness in the future, and it is assuredly a refreshing stimulus and a strong incentive to intellectual life. To each and all of the signatories I offer my heartfelt thanks for their unexpected address and kind words of welcome. They afford me unmingled gratification, and let me assure you they are deeply and highly appreciated.—Believe me, yours very truly,

(Signed) J. H. WHITEHEAD.

Messrs. G. B. Dodwell and G. W. F. Playfair.

Our contemporary the *Peking and Tientsin Times* in its last issue prints without comment the caterer's account for the Li banquet. We presume this is meant for a quaint and significant hint. Falstaff's immortal reckoning contained but one halfpenny worth of bread to an intolerable deal of sack, but no one can say this of the North China Amphitryons; their "wittles," as Weller would have it, ran to \$726, while their drink was \$636. There used to be a tradition in Shanghai that Tientsin men took off their coats to drink, so seriously did they mean business. The present evidence would show that their general coefficient of gastric elasticity is still large. Allowing for teetotalers and abstemious Chinamen, we calculate that each man must have put away one quart and a half of champagne (at an average price of 9s. 2d. per bottle) in addition to nearly one bottle of other wine. We can only suggest a motto for the next Northern official menu: "We'll teach you to drink deep ere you depart" (*Hamlet*).—*N. C. Daily News*.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S JOURNEY.

THE GOVERNOR'S INVITATION TO LUNCHEON DECLINED.

Li Hung-chang, the special Ambassador to Russia, arrived here on Tuesday morning (31st March) in the French mail steamer *Ernest Simons*, but he did not land. The boat was expected on Monday evening, but owing to a thick fog which was encountered she did not reach Hongkong until half past ten yesterday morning. Waglan lighthouse was passed at five o'clock on Monday afternoon but shortly afterwards the engines were stopped because of the fog and they remained stationary until eight o'clock yesterday morning, when the weather cleared. There was another short delay, however, and consequently it was nearly eleven o'clock when the *Ernest Simons* was made fast to her buoy. As soon as she arrived Captain Sterling, the Governor's A.D.C., went off in a launch to ascertain from the Ambassador whether it was his intention to pay a visit to His Excellency, Sir William Robinson. Captain Sterling was seen by Herr von Grot, Foreign Private Secretary, who took him into the Ambassador's cabin and introduced him to Li Hung-chang. Through the interpreter Li Hung-chang said that nothing would induce him to land; plague was raging in the colony and he did not wish the vessel put in quarantine at Singapore. He sent his apologies to His Excellency the Governor and also his card, which read—

LE COMTE LI HUNG-CHANG
Grand Secrétaire d'Etat
Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire
de S.M. l'Empereur de Chine.

On receipt of this information Captain Sterling returned to Government House, where he told His Excellency the Governor the Ambassador's decision.

Sir William Robinson had made every arrangement whereby Li Hung-chang was to be accorded a right royal British welcome. A guard of honour, consisting of about a hundred men of the Rifle Brigade, was drawn up on Murray Pier about ten o'clock in the morning, a detachment of the Hongkong Regiment was to line the route to Government House, and at Government House another detachment of the Hongkong Regiment was intended to act as a second guard of honour. Luncheon for ninety guests had been laid, and everything was in readiness for a reception which would have upheld the reputation the British have maintained for the warmth of their hospitality and the good fellowship that is always extended to foreign potentates. At first His Excellency the Governor had decided to entertain Li Hung-chang to luncheon at the Mount Austin Hotel followed by a review of the garrison, and then a dinner and reception at Government House. This programme was telegraphed last week to Li Hung-chang while he was at Shanghai and he was asked if he would accept the entertainments. He replied that he might attend the luncheon, review, and dinner, but he was "afraid of the plague" and therefore would not give a definite reply. His Excellency the Governor thereupon thought it would be better to give only a luncheon at Government House in honour of Li Hung-chang's visit, but at the last moment Li Hung-chang decided not to call upon His Excellency, and thus offered what we venture to think is a gross insult to the representative in this colony of Her Majesty the Queen. To say that he would not land because plague was "raging" in the colony is not only a paltry excuse but is contrary to truth. True there are a few cases, but does His Excellency suppose that he would contract the disease by a visit to a British Governor? He also urged that he did not want the steamer quarantined at Singapore. As a matter of fact, and doubtless he was aware of it, the steamer would not have been liable to quarantine even supposing he had paid a call on the Queen's representative here. So that both the excuses he advances are, to say the least of it, miserable in the extreme and contemptible for a man of Li Hung-chang's supposed dignity. There was a rumour in the colony yesterday that what really kept him on board the *Ernest Simons* was a strong fear that he would have received a hostile demonstration from certain sections of the Chinese. The Cantonese detest Li Hung-chang. He is known amongst them as "the big broker,"

and it is said that so deep is their hatred of him that they would have taken means to clearly show it. Whether there is any truth or not in this rumour we do not know, but it is certain that whatever hostile intentions might have existed His Excellency would have been efficiently guarded from all harm had he landed.

During the morning many ladies were present by invitation at Government House in order to witness the anticipated ceremony, and on the lawn in front of the house were the men of the Hongkong Regiment who were to form the guard of honour at the entrance. While waiting for the return of Captain Sterling the men were permitted to lay down their arms and lounge about. One lady relieved the tedium of waiting by taking snap-shots with her camera. When at length Captain Sterling returned keen disappointment was felt on hearing that Li Hung-chang would not call upon the Governor. The special preparations which had been made were thus rendered useless.

During the afternoon His Excellency Admiral Buller visited Li Hung-chang on board the *Ernest Simons* and the visit was returned on the *Alacrity*, a salute being fired on each occasion. Later several members of the Hongkong mercantile community went on board the *Ernest Simons* and conversed with Li Hung-chang, who sat in a chair on the upper deck.

ALLEGED ADULTERATION OF MILK.

At the Police Court on the 1st April before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, Mr. John Kennedy was summoned for selling adulterated milk. Mr. Denny appeared for the defence.

The following certificate by the Government Analyst was put in:—"Analysis of milk. Received 25th March. Analysed 25th March. Handed to me by Mr. Cotton at 11.50 a.m. Marks—Milk purchased from Mr. J. Kennedy, Horse Repository, Garden Road, 25th March, 1896. Sd. J. T. Cotton, Inspector of Nuisances. Bottle duly sealed J. Kennedy, Hongkong Dairy. Non-fatty solids 8.01, fat 2.06, water 89.93=100. Total solid matter 10.07. Ash 0.49. Specific gravity by hydrometer at 67 deg. Fah. 1.028. I hereby certify that this milk contains at least six (6) per cent. of added water. W. EDWARD CROW, Government Analyst, Government Laboratory, 27th March, 1896."

Inspector J. T. Cotton said—I am Inspector of Nuisances. On the 25th March at 7.30 a.m. I gave a coolie 20 cents and an empty pint bottle in Garden Road, and followed him to the entrance of Mr. Kennedy's stables. I then went to the tramway station, St. John's Place, and I saw the coolie talking to Mr. Kennedy. He afterwards came out with the bottle full of milk (produced). I met the coolie in the road and took the bottle from him and he returned me ten cents. I took the bottle home, had my breakfast, and about ten o'clock I handed the bottle to Mr. McCallum at the Sanitary Board office. I afterwards took the bottle to the Government Civil Hospital and handed it to Mr. Crow.

By Mr. Denny—I received instructions from Mr. McCallum on the 24th March. I had had no dispute whatever with Mr. Kennedy a few days before. He was not prosecuted for burying a still-born calf. I went to his place about the 18th March and took eight coolies with me to dig up the garden. Silva, the man in charge, did not object, but I had a dispute with Mr. Hill, who objected to my bringing the coolies into the place. I told him he had better mind what he was doing, as I had a warrant to search the place. I ordered a Sikh policeman to let my interpreter pass. I am certain that the bottle produced is the one I gave to the coolie. I did not myself see the bottle filled with milk.

Chun Yan, a scavenging coolie, said—At 7.30 a.m. on the 25th March Inspector Cotton asked me to buy some milk. He gave me an empty bottle and 20 cents. The bottle given to me was kept in the dairy. I went to the stables, gave the 20 cents to a European lady, and handed the bottle to a Portuguese. The lady gave me 10 cents change and the

Portuguese handed me the bottle of milk produced and kept my bottle. I handed the bottle of milk to the inspector. The shape of the other bottle is not the same as the one produced.

By Mr. Denny—I recognise the man Silva as the person who gave me the milk. He got it from the top of a table on which were a lot of other bottles.

Mr. H. McCallum, Secretary to the Sanitary Board, said—I remember a bottle of that description being brought to me by Inspector Cotton on the 25th ult., about ten o'clock. I filled in the usual form and sent it by Inspector Cotton to the Government Analyst. On the 28th I received a report of the analysis.

Mrs. Denny—Why did you give these instructions?

Witness—Am I bound to answer that question?

His Worship—Yes, I think you might answer it.

Witness—I had reason to believe from information I received that the milk delivered from this dairy was watered to a considerable extent.

Mr. Denny—Give me your reasons. Who gave you the information?

His Worship—I do not think the witness is bound to answer that question.

Mr. Denny—I submit he is, as he is in no way privileged. (To witness). Are you aware that Dr. Clark gets his milk from Mr. Kennedy's?

Witness—I do not know where Dr. Clark gets his supply of table commodities from. That would be the last thing I should inquire about.

Mr. Denny—He has made no complaint?

Witness—No, he has not.

Mr. Denny—And you refuse to state who made the complaint?

Witness—There was no real complaint made.

Mr. Denny—Did you yourself in any way analyse this milk?

Witness—No, I did not.

Mr. W. E. Crow, Government Analyst, said—I received a bottle containing the milk produced at 11.50 a.m. on the 25th March from Inspector Cotton. The bottle was duly sealed.

Mr. Denny—What do you mean by "duly"?

Witness—The seal showed the name "J. Kennedy, Hongkong Dairy." I analysed the milk and the results are set forth in my certificate. I am of opinion that the milk contained at least six per cent. of added water. I believed I analysed a sample of Mr. Kennedy's milk quite recently. I cannot remember the date. I am of opinion that the milk produced is adulterated.

By Mr. Denny—I cannot say that the milk contains anything hurtful to a person consuming it. Tainted meat would be unwholesome and unfit for use. As regards this milk, there was nothing in it which would be unwholesome and unfit for use.

Mr. Denny—Suppose coffee had been added instead of water, it would not have been unwholesome and unfit for use?

Witness—Then that would render it unfit for use probably. You would not give it to a child, for instance. It could not be used for every purpose for which it is intended to be used. According to the analysis the milk does not contain the proper amount of wholesome constituents. In England I have had experience in analysing milk and 30 to 50 per cent. of added water was often found. I have never purchased milk in England for the purpose of a prosecution, but I know that under the Act it is necessary to inform the seller and to allow him to retain a portion of the article. Milk varies as to the amount of water it contains. There is a difference in the quality of milk obtained from a Chinese cow and that obtained from an Australian cow, and there is also a difference in the milk obtained from a water buffalo. Speaking generally, a buffalo's milk is richer than other milk. In a case I have in my mind some milk from a buffalo contained 83 per cent. of water. I know that the milk in the present case contains 6 per cent. of added water, because it contains only 8.01 of non-fatty solids and also because the amount of fat is low. The amount of inorganic matter as represented by the ash was low too. From the results I am of opinion

that the milk was watered. There was two per cent. of cream there—a low percentage.

For the defence, Mr. Dennys said this was not a case with which the Court could deal and proceeded to explain that the local Ordinance, 3 of 1890, referred to "tainted, adulterated, or unwholesome food," which was totally different from the Act of Parliament in England, which referred to adulterated food or to things which were not what they purported to be. The local Ordinance referred only to unwholesome and hurtful things and could not be applied to this case. Very necessary precautions were taken in England, but such was not the case here, and it was the easiest thing in the world for a person to add six per cent. of water into a bottle of milk. The Ordinance could not be taken as the equivalent of the English Acts referring to the sale of food and drugs.

His Worship pointed out that under section 5 the definition was taken from the English Acts.

Mr. Dennys said he quite admitted that milk was included, but the whole object of the Ordinance was to prevent the sale of tainted and unwholesome food. Surely it could not be said that milk is unwholesome even if six per cent. of water was added.

His Worship—You are not charged with selling unwholesome or tainted food, but with selling adulterated milk.

Mr. Dennys submitted that it was not adulteration simply to put a harmless liquid with milk. Speaking as to the facts Mr. Dennys pointed out that Mr. Kennedy had been in the colony twenty-seven years. He had cows of every kind and a man to superintend the milking of them. That man, whose name was Hill, would say that the milk was first put into small galvanized buckets, then into larger buckets, when it was locked up in the cow house by him, and he handed the key to the watchman, who afterwards handed it to Silva. Both Hill and Silva would say that no water whatever was added to the milk, and he (Mr. Dennys) thought his Worship would not have the least doubt that the milk was in exactly the same state as when it came from the cows.

Hill and Silva were then called as witnesses. Hill said he saw all the cows milked and he swore there was no water in any of the buckets or in the room in which the milk was afterwards placed. Silva explained that he bottled the milk and no water whatever was added. Every precaution was taken to prevent adulteration. Every morning he received from the watchman the key of the dairy in which the milk was placed.

Hill was recalled by his Worship and said that during the last month Mr. Kennedy had had six extra cows, and he believed that during the last two months about seventeen cows had been added to the stock. There had been an increased demand for milk since the outbreak at Pokfulam, and Mr. Kennedy had been obliged to refuse many orders. Before the outbreak the supply of milk had sometimes been greater than the demand, and as many as fifty bottles of milk had been left.

Mr. Dennys said the watchman was not present in court and as he would like to call him, as well as the attendants at the dairy at the Mica Works, where some cows were kept, he would like an adjournment. He wished to show the *bona fides* on the part of Mr. Kennedy, who took every precaution to prevent adulteration. This was a very serious matter for Mr. Kennedy, who wished the matter to be thoroughly investigated.

His Worship adjourned the case until next morning at eleven o'clock and in the meantime he would, he said, think over the evidence.

At the Police Court on the 2nd April the hearing was resumed before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith of the charge against Mr. J. Kennedy of selling adulterated milk. Mr. Dennys defended. Further witnesses for the defence were called.

Mr. David Kennedy said—I have assisted my brother in the dairy for the past thirteen years. During the last few months I have been living at the horse repository and dairy at Causeway Bay. There is also an establishment at the Mica Works, where the cattle are kept under observation. On the 11th March I landed six cows at the Mica Works. Ten others had been landed in February and on the 26th of that month they were taken to Causeway Bay. On the 25th March I arrived at the Mica Works

at three o'clock in the morning and the six cows there were milked. The milk was placed into ordinary milking buckets and then was put into one milk can, which I looked myself. There was no water in the milking buckets or cans. I put the can into the trap, drove into Causeway Bay, and put the can with three others, and sent them to the Garden Road establishment. One key is kept by me at Causeway Bay and the other is kept by Silva at Garden Road. We sell only our own milk to customers. Other milk was bought for the calves and for making butter, but that milk was not sold or put into bottles. I have had experience of dairy work in England. The food here is quite different from that given in England. The principal food in Hongkong is bran, and so the milk is not of the same quality here as it is in England. The milk is thinner here.

By his Worship—I had five years' experience on my brother's dairy in England. At the Garden Road repository there are Jerseys, Ayrshires, half-bred Ayrshires, half-bred Short-horns, Alderneys, Holsteins. They were all imported from Australia; there are no Chinese cows. There are some half-bred Indian Jersey cows. The milk from the different cows is mixed together. I have never had the milk analysed myself, but I know it has been analysed at the military hospital and declared to be all right. The milk was analysed when the contract for milk for the military hospital was made. I do not know what is the usual percentage of water in milk.

George Bayford, foreman at the Causeway Bay establishment, said—On the morning of the 25th March there were sixty-seven cows at Causeway Bay. I saw them milked into small galvanized buckets, and the milk was afterwards put into three large tins, which I immediately locked, when they were put into the van and sent to Garden Road. No water was put into the buckets or cans.

Fan Tsau, the watchman at Garden Road stables, spoke to seeing the milking of the cows from 2.30 to 4 o'clock a.m. on the 25th ult. After the milk was put in the milk-house Hill gave him the key, which he handed to Silva. Nobody but Silva opened the milk-house. Mr. Kennedy only sold his own milk. He bought buffalo milk, but this was used for making butter and feeding the calves.

By his Worship—The buffalo milk was kept in the milk-house, but in a separate vessel. This milk came from Wanchai and was brought in covered buckets. There was buffalo milk on the premises on the 25th ult. Only Mr. Kennedy's own milk was bottled. The milk room is divided into separate compartments and the buffalo milk is kept in one compartment and the other milk in another compartment.

Mr. Dennys—I now ask your Worship to take Mr. Kennedy's own statement.

His Worship—I am sorry, but I cannot do that. I am not allowed to.

Mr. Dennys—Of course he is the only person who can speak absolutely as to the facts with reference to the cows he has bought and the amount of milk he has to supply his customers with, and I think your Worship has the power to take his statement on oath. However, I will not press that. I ask you to consider what I said yesterday with reference to this Ordinance, which is not at all on the same lines as the home Act, and if the defendant is charged here under this Ordinance it must be that he has sold goods calculated to injure the consumer. I ask your Worship to consider that in this case—suppose you hold against me with reference to the application of the Ordinance—no case has been made out. The only evidence you have before you upon which you can rely is the evidence of Mr. Crow and what he says is—"I have analysed this milk and in my opinion at least six per cent. of water has been added." He cannot give you any grounds for this opinion whatever—

His Worship—Oh, yes he has.

Mr. Dennys—Except, if your Worship will pardon me, there is an absence of a certain amount of insoluble matter. "I think the proper amount of water is 83 per cent." he says; "here I find 89 per cent." He gives us—

His Worship—The reason he gave is—"It contains 8.01 of non-fatty solids; the amount of fat is low, and the inorganic matter is low, too."

Mr. Dennys—Yes, those are his reasons. But

he says he knows nothing whatever about milk from Australian cows. This milk was taken from Australian cows of different breeds and Mr. Crow knows nothing whatever from actual practical analysis about the milk from these cows, and therefore I submit that your Worship cannot possibly convict the defendant on that evidence. I do not think I need go into the question asked of the inspector as to his having had some bad feeling in this matter, except to show that his evidence cannot be relied upon as accurate. He came here and swore positively that he gave the identical bottle in Court to the coolie, who took it into the place and returned with the same bottle. The coolie flatly contradicted him and said it was not the same bottle. That only shows a certain amount of animus on the part of the inspector in charge of the case. But of course I cannot ask your Worship to decide the case on that ground at all, and I ask you whether there is any evidence on which the defendant can be convicted of a criminal offence. Here is a man who has been in the colony twenty-seven years, and not a single complaint has been made against him during the whole of that time in reference to his milk. He is charged criminally before you, and is not allowed to give evidence. He is charged here as a criminal simply because Mr. Crow says he thinks six per cent. of water has been added to the milk. I have called evidence to show that no water could have been added and I think your Worship will agree with me that Mr. Kennedy has done everything he could to bring the whole of the facts before the Court. I thought it only right to mention the buffalo milk, which is used for making butter and feeding the calves with, and the witnesses have sworn positively that the milk is not sold to customers, and it does not go out of the place except as butter. I ask your Worship not to brand Mr. Kennedy with having committed a breach of this Ordinance. It is a very serious charge indeed, and ought to be supported in the fullest and most thorough manner before he is convicted. I called attention to the home Acts simply to show what is done in England before a man can be convicted. In England a purchaser has to declare at the time that he is going to submit his purchase for analysis and a portion is retained by the seller to give him an opportunity of having it analysed by his own people. That has to be done before there can be a conviction, and I submit that we should not bring in a local Ordinance referring to tainted and putrid food to apply to a bottle of milk which contains only six per cent. of added water—an infinitesimal amount.

His Worship—The evidence in this case shows that on the 25th March a bottle of milk was bought at Mr. Kennedy's repository in Garden Road, and that it was taken to the Government Analyst, who received it with the seal unbroken, and bearing the name "J. Kennedy, Hongkong Dairy." I am satisfied that the bottle of milk produced is the bottle bought from Mr. Kennedy that morning. Now section 4 of Ordinance 23 of 1890 deals with four classes of food—tainted, unwholesome, adulterated, and unfit for use. The meaning of adulteration in regard to milk must be that the milk contains constituents which are not normal in milk. In Mr. Crow's evidence he says that in his opinion the milk contains six per cent. of added water. He first said "I am of opinion that the milk contains six per cent. of added water." In another place he says, "It does not contain the amount of wholesome constituents that good milk should contain." Later on he says, "I say there is added water," and he gives as his reason, "It contains only 8.01 of non-fatty solids, the amount of fat is low, and the amount of inorganic matter is low, too." In another place he says, "It contains two per cent. of cream—a low percentage." I have it therefore proved by scientific analysis that the milk in question is adulterated milk. Now against that there is the hard fact that I have the evidence of persons in the employ of Mr. Kennedy, who tell me the course of the operation of milking and the various stages gone through, and that that morning no water got into the milk and that none of the cans contained water. But against that I have the very strong fact, scientifically proved, that the milk does contain water, that it contains six per cent. of added water, that is, water that did not get there by accident.

That fact has not been explained away to my satisfaction at all. It was quite competent for Mr. Kennedy to have the milk analysed hap-hazard, but he has not taken this course, and it comes out in the evidence of his brother that Mr. Kennedy had not taken the trouble to have the milk analysed for his own satisfaction. One would have thought that that would have been one of the first precautions to take. I fine the defendant \$50.

PRESENTATION TO CAPTAIN HUGH CRAIG.

The E. & A. Co.'s steamship *Menmuir*, which arrived at Hongkong on Tuesday, conveyed a large number of excursionists from Australia and elsewhere en route to Japan. The commander of the vessel, Captain Hugh Craig, made himself very popular among his guests, and as the *Menmuir* was approaching the coast on Monday night all the passengers booked through from Sydney joined unanimously in reciprocating his kindness in a noteworthy way. After dinner the Hon. Canon Bouverie, of Pewsey Rectory, Wilts, England, representing his fellow-travellers, spoke in high eulogy of Captain Craig, to whom he handed an address containing the autographs of all the passengers, and mentioned that the donors had also subscribed in order to have the testimonial handsomely framed in Hongkong. The address, which may be seen at the office of the Agents of the E. & A. S. S. Company (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.), is beautifully embellished and in the fullest sense a work of art. The text, which is as follows, is in Italian script and tastefully illuminated by the Hon. Stuart Bouverie, of Salisbury, England:—

“March, 1896.

“TO CAPTAIN HUGH CRAIG.

“We, the undersigned passengers, request you kindly to accept this small token of our appreciation of your skill as a navigator, your capacity as a commander, your courtesy as a host, and your kindness as a friend.”

The writing is surrounded with water-colour paintings, by Canon Bouverie, of various landscapes and seascapes viewed during the passage of the steamer from Australia. All these, like a sketch of the *Menmuir*, naturally possess special interest for Captain Craig. After the genial commander's health had been drunk and the time honoured chorus “For he's a jolly good fellow” sung, Captain Craig responded in suitable terms. The health of the other officers of the *Menmuir* was subsequently proposed and cordially adopted, and the proceedings closed with a musical and literary entertainment. The voyage of the *Menmuir* has been favoured throughout with perfect weather and the trip has been in all respects a pleasure excursion.

THE “DORIC.”

On Tuesday afternoon the public were afforded the opportunity of inspecting the *Doric*, the most recent addition to the O. and O. Company's line of steamers. The *Doric*, which sails for San Francisco to-day, is undoubtedly a magnificent boat. Although built in 1883 by Messrs Harland and Wolff, of Belfast, she is really a new steamer. For twelve years she was running between London and New Zealand and she made exceptionally fast passages, one of which held the record until quite recently. Last year she was taken in hand and re-fitted throughout, the hull and masts being the only parts of the original boat. Her gross tonnage is now 4,675, register 2,936, and she has three decks, two of which are of steel. From stem to stern she is 470 feet, 44 feet 2 in. broad, and 31 feet 5 in. deep, and she has seven bulkheads. There are four single-ended boilers of 180 lbs. pressure, the engines are triple expansion of 553 nominal horse-power, she burns 55 tons of coal a day, and her speed is 15 knots. She is fitted throughout with the electric light. It was really a pleasure to inspect this most handsome steamer. The dining room is on the upper deck and is beautifully cool and tastefully upholstered, and leading out of it is a very fine oak staircase. There is a very luxuriously furnished library on the saloon deck, and the books, which are handsomely bound, are by all the

leading authors, so that no one can complain of the absence of the best literature. The smoking room is also on the saloon deck and in addition to being well lighted, airy, and commodious, is very comfortably fitted up. There is a cosy retiring room for ladies, and it must also be mentioned that all the floors are covered with indiarubber, so that the danger of slipping is entirely obviated. The sleeping cabins call for special mention. Each has two large patent port holes, as well as ventilators, which run fore and aft of the ship, and therefore passengers will not have to pass the night in stuffy compartments even in the hottest weather. In fact, all the latest improvements are to be found in the *Doric* and nothing is wanting to ensure the comfort of passengers. The captain is Mr. H. Smith, and the chief officer, Mr. A. Hamblton, both of the Royal Naval Reserve. The biggest daily run made in the *Doric*'s first trip to this port was 383 knots.

THE YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the sixth ordinary general meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Association, Shanghai, on the 20th April:—

The Board of Directors have now the pleasure to submit to the shareholders the annual report and audited statement of accounts and balance sheet to the 31st December, 1895.

Working Account, 1894, and former years.—This account shows a balance of \$184,360.41 at credit. As the claims pending on policies issued in 1895 and former years are not heavy, the directors have pleasure in recommending the payment of a special dividend to shareholders of 10 per cent. (= \$6 per share), which will absorb \$41,688, and leave a balance of \$142,672.41 to be carried forward.

Working Account, 1895.—The net premium earned, after deducting the cost of reinsurances, premium returned, &c., amount to \$395,200.04 and the account shows a balance at credit of \$294,832.44 on the 31st December last, which sum the directors recommend be appropriated in the following manner:—

A dividend of 10 per cent. (= \$6 per share) to shareholders \$ 41,688.00
To reserve fund 50,000.00
Balance to be carried forward 203,144.44

In addition to the claims paid during the year, which amount to \$83,181.25, there are claims pending on known losses and casualties which are estimated at about \$90,000.

Reserve Fund.—The satisfactory condition of working accounts enables the directors to recommend increasing this fund by \$50,000. The reserve fund will then amount to \$400,000.

Exchange and Investment Fluctuation Account.—This account has been increased by \$9,919.63 and amounts to \$72,219.93.

Sterling Exchange has been taken at 2s. 11½d. per tael (the demand rate on 31st December, 1895), and the relative value between dollars and taels at 73.

Investments.—The value on the 31st December last has been taken for all the investments.

Directors.—In accordance with the articles of association, the present directors all retire from office, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditor.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. Augustus White, who offers himself for re-election.

By Order of the Directors,
W. S. JACKSON, Secretary.
Shanghai, 30th March, 1896.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 30th March says:—As Mr. Pitzipios, of H.B.M. Consulate, was sculling in a racing boat some three quarters of a mile above Jessfield last Saturday, two Chinese ran up to the bank and threw a couple of large clods at the boat, one of which knocked a hole in the side. Mr. Pitzipios managed to get ashore before the boat sank, and hired a couple of countrymen to carry it back to the boat-house. The matter has been reported to H.B.M. Consul and will be brought to the notice of the Chinese authorities.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Rifle Association concluded on the afternoon of the 6th April, having lasted three days. The shooting was not perhaps quite as good as usual, owing doubtless to the rather dull light that prevailed. The results showed that the Lee-Metford rifles are far and away superior to the Martinis, and it is also to be noticed that the Rifle Brigade competitors carried away most of the prizes, no fewer than eight out of the eleven in the Queen's Aggregate going to them alone. Major Wrottesley was the winner of the Queen's Aggregate, with a score of 279. The same total was compiled by Colour-Sergeant Hopkins, but the Major was awarded first place as he was more successful at the long distance ranges. The Ladies' competition evoked much interest yesterday afternoon and a large number of people assembled, amongst those present being His Excellency the Governor and Admiral Buller. Mrs. Hawkins proved the highest scorer, her total being 16. After the meeting the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Black to the following winners:—

1.—*All Comers*.—Distance 200 yards. No. of Shots—Seven. Unlimited entries, 30 cents each. Ten prizes, value \$45.

1st prize	... \$15	6th prize	... \$3
2nd	... 10	7th	... 1
3rd	... 5	8th	... 1
4th	... 5	9th	... 1
5th	... 3	10th	... 1

{ Lieutenant Powlett	... 35
{ Corporal Julian	... 35
{ Mr. Shepherd	... 34
{ Lieutenant Hoey	... 34
Colour-Sergeant A. Smith	... 34
Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	... 34
Colour-Sergeant H. Smith	... 33
Sgt. Major Morrish	... 33
Captain Stewart	... 33
Captain Ferguson	... 32

2.—*Martini-Henry Carbine Competition*.—Distance 200 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Seven. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added.

Mr. MacLennan	... 33
Mr. W. Macdonald	... 33
Mr. G. White	... 31

3.—*Queen's, 1st Stage*.—Distance 200 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Seven. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added. Position—Standing or Kneeling.

Mr. A. Chapman	... 32
Lieutenant Hoey	... 31
Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	... 30
Sapper Pritchard	... 30

4.—*Ladies' Tournament*.—Open to Lady Members or their Nominees.—Distance 300 yards. No. of Shots—Seven. No entrance fee. Ten Prizes presented.

Mrs. Lacey, nominated Col. Sgt. Lacey	... 32
Miss Bain, nominated Mr. Shepherd	... 32
Mrs. Eccles, nominated Capt. Eccles	... 31
Mrs. Lockhart, nominated Capt. Ferguson	... 31
Mrs. Morrish, nominated Sgt. Major Morrish	... 30
Mrs. Stewart, nominated Mr. Stewart	... 29
Mrs. Robinson, nominated Mr. E. Robinson	... 29
Mrs. Norcott, nominated Private Wilson	... 28

5.—*Association*.—300 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Seven. Unlimited entries, 30 cents each. Five prizes, 70 per cent. of entries.

Sapper Pritchard	... 31
Sapper Thompson	... 31
Lieutenant Hoey	... 30
Lieutenant Power	... 30
Corporal Collins	... 30

6.—*Martini-Henry Carbine Competition*.—Distance 500 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Seven. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added.

Mr. W. Stewart	... 32
Mr. McPhail	... 31
Mr. W. Macdonald	... 31
Mr. Shepherd	... 30

- 7.—*All Comers*.—Distance 500 yards. No. of Shots—Seven. Unlimited entries, 30 cents each. Ten prizes, value \$45.
- | | | | |
|-----------|------|-----------|-----|
| 1st prize | \$15 | 6th prize | \$3 |
| 2nd " | 10 | 7th " | 1 |
| 3rd " | 5 | 8th " | 1 |
| 4th " | 5 | 9th " | 1 |
| 5th " | 5 | 10th " | 1 |

Colour-Sergeant H. Smith	35
Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	34
Mr. Shepherd	34
Mr. G. P. Lammert	33
Colour-Sergeant A. Smith	33
Captain Ferguson	33
Mr. W. Stewart	33
Corporal Julian	32
Private Priddle	32
Sudar Khan	32

- 8.—*Queen's, 1st Stage*.—Distance 500 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Seven. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added.

Colour-Sergeant Lacey	35
Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	34
Mr. W. Stewart	34
Mr. S. M. Morrish	33

- 9.—*Queen's, 2nd Stage*.—Distance 500 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Ten. Entrance 50 cents. Five prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added.

Lieutenant Hoey	48
Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	48
Private Wilson	47
Sergeant Shearing	46
Captain Ferguson	45

- 10.—*Queen's 1st Stage*.—Distance 600 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Seven. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added. Martini-Henry rifles allowed 3 points.

Private Wilson	33
Sergeant Hopkins	32
Mr. Shepherd	32
Major Wrottesley	32

- 11.—*Queen's, 2nd Stage*.—Distance 600 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Fifteen. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added. Martini-Henry rifles allowed 5 points.

Mr. Shepherd	65
Colour-Sergeant Lacey	65
Private Wilson	64
Mr. W. Stewart	63

- 12.—*All Comers*.—Distance 600 yards. No. of Shots—Seven. Unlimited entries, 30 cents each. Seven prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries.

Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	34
Mr. Shepherd	32
Lieutenant Hoey	31
Colour-Sergeant Leslie	31
Colour-Sergeant Smith	31
Sergeant Shearing	31
Lieutenant Webber	30

- 13.—*Queen's, 3rd Stage*.—Distance 800 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Ten. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added, presented by *Daily Press*. Martini-Henry rifles allowed 4 points.

Major Wrottesley	45
Lieutenant Hoey	44
Mr. Shepherd	42
Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	41

- 14.—*Queen's, 3rd Stage*.—Distance 900 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Ten. Entrance 50 cents. Four prizes, value 70 per cent. of the entries with \$10 added, presented by the Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G. Martini-Henry rifles allowed 8 points.

Colour-Sergeant Lacey	40
Lieutenant Webber	40
Major Wrottesley	39
Mr. Shepherd	38

- 15.—*Queen's, 1st Stage, Aggregate*.—Optional sweepstake of 50 cents each. The highest scorer takes 70 per cent. of the entries.

Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	96
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- 16.—*Carbine Aggregate*.—Optional sweepstake of 50 cents each. The highest scorer takes 70 per cent. of the entries.

Mr. W. Macdonald	64
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- 17.—*Nursery Aggregate*.—Restricted to Members who have never won outright an Association Subscription Cup, or a First or Second prize exceeding the value of £1 at any previous prize meeting in Hongkong

or elsewhere, and whose respective scores in competitions Nos. 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14 (the three stages of the Queen's) make the highest aggregates. Entrance \$1. 1st prize, Cup presented by Capt. Ferguson and Lieut. Hoey, R.B., and two other prizes, 70 per cent. of entries.

Private Wilson	277
Colour-Sergeant Lacey	270
Mr. W. Stewart	269

- 18.—*Queen's, 2nd Stage, Aggregate*.—Optional sweepstake of 50 cents each. The highest scorer to take 70 per cent. of the entries.

Private Wilson	111
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- 19.—*Association*.—800 and 900 yards. Members only. No. of Shots—Five at each range. Entries unlimited. 30 cents each range. Prizes, 70 per cent. of entries for highest scores. Best scores at distance to count towards Aggregate. Three prizes.

Private Priddle, R.B.	46
Lieutenant Hoey	45
Major Wrottesley	44

- 20.—*Queen's, 3rd Stage, Aggregate*.—Optional sweepstake of 50 cents each. The highest scorer to take 70 per cent. of the entries.

Major Wrottesley	84
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- 21.—*Queen's, Aggregate*.—For Competitors whose respective scores in the three stages of the Queen's make up the highest aggregates. Entrance \$1. Prizes to be selected by winners in order of merit as laid down by rule 14 in Ladies' Competition.

Major Wrottesley	279
Colour-Sergeant Hopkins	279
Private Wilson	277
Mr. Shepherd	276
Colour-Sergeant Lacey	270
Mr. W. Stewart	269
Lieutenant Hoey	263
Sergeant Leslie	260
Captain Ferguson	251
Colour-Sergeant A. Smith	247
Corporal Collins	243

- 22.—*Ladies' Competition*.—Open to Lady Members only. About 75 yards. Seven shots—one sighting shot. No entrance fee. Rifles and Ammunition provided by the Association.

Mrs. Hawkins	16
Miss Brost	13
Mrs. Andrew	12
Mrs. Hayes	12
Miss Brennan	10
Mrs. Moore	9
Miss Boyes	8
Miss Kyles	8
Miss Jackson	7
Miss Robinson	7
Mrs. Roxhall	6
Mrs. Chapman	4

[The results in this competition are not authentic as the scoring cards were not handed in to the Secretary.]

- 23.—*Non-Professional Cup*.—Distance 200 yards.

No. of Shots—Seven. Open to Members of the Rifle Association who have not won a Prize of any description for Rifle Shooting during the past 7 years. Position.—Standing or Kneeling. Entrance \$1.00. First prize the "Novices" Cup, presented, and two others prizes 70 per cent. of the entries.

Lieutenant Power	33
Lieutenant Percival	32
Inspector Butlin	26

A correspondent of *L'Extrême Orient*, writing from Yunnan, says:—The Emperor has officially made known that a spirit has told him that five chiefs will arise after the present winter to strengthen his throne. This prophecy has been received with some little incredulity by the people, who take it in an opposite sense and think that the five chiefs who are to arise are more likely to destroy than to consolidate the dynasty. The year 1896 is in fact regarded as the fatal year, for an ancient prophecy known to every one says that the present dynasty must fall after two hundred and eighty years of power. Now the dynasty dates from 1616, at least that was the year that Ama Bang took the title of Emperor. Is it to remove the fears of the superstitious that the Emperor hastens to affirm that his throne is to be consolidated? Perhaps. In any case the people look for very grave events this year.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

TENTH CLUB RACE.

This race was sailed on the 29th March. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round Channel Rocks, Stonecutters, mark boat off Chung Hue (leaving all to port), and finishing at the starting line; 15 miles. The following boats started:—

Petrel	Mr. Morton Jones.
Payne	Royal Engineers.
Dart	Mr. A. H. Barlow.
Ladybird	Mr. J. Hastings.
Erica	Mr. A. Denison.
Meteor	Mr. T. Lammert.
Princess	Dr. Lowson.
Seabreeze	Lieut. Paley.

The yachts had a very good start in a fairly strong east wind and the Princess, Erica, and Meteor at once went to the front. On nearing the breakwater the wind strengthened considerably, but to the general surprise the Princess not only kept in first place, but increased her lead from Erica and Meteor, rounding the Channel Rocks about a minute in front of Erica, with Meteor a close third. The three boats went about at the rocks instead of gybing, the wind being rather strong. Dart and Ladybird were well together, but some distance behind. In the run down to Chung-hue Princess ran away from the others, being about three minutes ahead at the markboat. Erica and Meteor kept well together, a few lengths only separating them. Then came Ladybird, Dart, Petrel, and Payne, a long way behind. In the beat up behind Stonecutters, when leading boat, Princess had the misfortune to collide with a junk and lost her mast. She was taken in tow by the junk and afterwards by the Arrow. No damage to the hull of the boat is reported. Erica and Meteor were now the leading boats and a very close contest was kept up by them all the way to the finish, Meteor, getting a good slant off the wharves, crossing the line first, with a lead of a few seconds over her time.

Finish:—	H.	M.	S.
Meteor	2	22	0
Erica	2	23	8
Dart	2	36	10
Ladybird	2	47	52
Payne	2	49	57
Petrel	2	52	15
Seabreeze			not timed.

As Meteor allowed Erica 1 minute 5 seconds, she thus wins by three seconds. The marks gained by the boats up to date are

First Class	
Erica	48 marks
Meteor	46 "
Princess	41 "
Dart	14 "
Payne	3 "
Ladybird	1 "

Second Class	
She	60 "
Seabreeze	10 "

Handicap Class	
Arrow	30 "

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The result of the "Best Score Cup Competition" for the six months ending March 31st is published below. It will be seen that four members return net scores of 77. These gentlemen will have to play off for the Cup. They will of course be required to play under their present handicaps. The number of entries was 130 for the six months, which is good, considering that the play was suspended for about a month in February. In the list below each member's best score only is given:—

Mr. A. S. Anton	92	15	77
Mr. C. A. Tomes	101	24	77
Mr. W. A. Duff	93	16	77
Mr. C. E. Hume	88	11	77
Mr. C. H. Grace	96	15	81
Mr. C. Palmer	92	11	81
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	92	10	82
Mr. L. Sanderson	92	10	82
Mr. E. W. Maitland	104	18	86
Mr. C. W. May	105	16	89
Mr. W. M. Thompson	100	10	90
Mr. W. J. Saunders	111	18	93
Mr. H. W. Slade	114	18	96
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	116	18	98

Several others over 100 nett.

The conditions for the next Best Score Competitions are altered as follows:—

The competitions will be for one month at a time only, as it is considered that the condition of the ground, etc., alters so quickly as to make six months too long for a fair trial of skill.

The member who returns the best net score for each month will take the whole of the entrance money as a prize. The present month's "Best Score Pool" will be closed on April 30th.

It has also been decided that the Club will give a Cup to be played for once in every six months by members whose handicaps are 15 or over. The conditions are match play over 18 holes, and this should encourage those members who rarely return scores for other competitions to try their luck. The entries for this Cup, called "The Duffers' Cup," must be made to the Hon. Sec. by April 15th. Entrance 50 cents. The winner to take the entrance money and the Cup.

The competition for the final possession of the "Captain's Cup," presented in 1895 by Commodore Boyes, R.N., came to an end on Friday. Some of the matches have been very close, several having been carried to the last green before they were decided. The play of some of the longer handicap players of the Club has been steadily improving, and it is expected before long that a thorough overhaul of the handicaps will take place. The general idea is, apparently, that some one must win a prize before his handicap is reduced, but this is not so by any means; the duties of the Handicap Committee are manifold, amongst them being the important one of watching the play of members, and, as they improve, to lower their handicaps in such a way that all should, at their best game, be able, with the advantage of their handicap points, to send in a net score at scratch form.

The matches just concluded were played over 18 holes, and the green, considering all things, was in good order. The seventh and ninth greens, which were ruined during the race week by the traffic of the crowds in front of the mat sheds erected on the terrace, are slowly recovering, but it will be a long time before they are fit to play on again.

Mr. Caesar Hawkins is to be congratulated on winning the very handsome cup. His play throughout showed great steadiness. The final tie played yesterday afternoon resulted in a most exciting finish. At the beginning of the game, in spite of having to give 2 strokes in 5 holes, Capt. Eccles managed to get 3 up. Mr. Hawkins won the next two holes, and at the turn, Capt. Eccles was only 1 up. This lead Mr. Hawkins, through steady play, reduced, and then won 2 holes. He was at the fifteenth hole 2 up and 3 to play. Both men drove well towards the burn; Mr. Hawkins failed in his approach and got into the water; Capt. Eccles played a good shot over and won the hole in 4—Mr. Hawkins 1 up and 2 to play. Two good drives towards the seventeenth hole gave easy approaches, that of Mr. Hawkins being short, while his opponent was on the green, a good putt gave Capt. Eccles the hole in 3—Score, all even and 1 to play. Both men at the eighteenth hole were well over the burn in two strokes, Mr. Hawkins lying on the edge of the green, while Capt. Eccles was too far beyond, and in playing the odd he was just short of the green, and failed to put out, which let in Mr. Hawkins, who was down in 5 to the Captain's 6. Result of the competition:—

1st ROUND.—Dr. J. A. Lawson (scratch) beat Mr. H. L. Dalrymple (10), the remainder byes.

2nd ROUND.—Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins (receiving 8 strokes) beat Dr. J. A. Lawson by 4 up and 2 to play; Mr. W. A. Duff (3) beat Capt. Rumsey by 3 up and 2 to play; Mr. A. S. Anton beat Mr. C. H. Grace (2) by 1 hole; Capt. W. V. Eccles beat Mr. E. A. Ram (7) by 1 hole.

3rd ROUND.—Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins beat Mr. W. A. Duff (1) by 2 up and 1 to play; Capt. W. V. Eccles beat Mr. A. S. Anton (5) by 2 holes.

FINAL ROUND.—Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins (receiving 7 strokes) beat Capt. W. V. Eccles by 1 hole.

The further fixtures of the Golf Club are as follow:—

April 4th and following days, Captain's Cup (Medal Play).

April 24th to 27th.—The Quarterly Meeting, comprising—The MacEwen Cup, a Sweep, a Pool, and a Bogie Competition.

April 16th.—The Competition for the Duffers' Cup commences. Match Play tournament for members of handicaps of 15 or more; and probably about April 15th the Championship will be played for.

In addition to the above there is the magnificent bowl presented by Mr. J. Thurburn to be played for, but this competition will be held later on.

BEST SCORE CUP.

The four members who tied for the Best Score Cup have played off, with the following result:—

Mr. A. S. Anton	92	9	83 (Cup).
Mr. C. A. Tomes	106	20	86 (2nd Prize).
Mr. C. E. Hume	95	6	89 (3rd Prize).

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

The first of the monthly competitions for the Cup kindly presented by the Captain of the Club (Capt. Rumsey) was concluded on the 6th April. Although there are perhaps, fewer returns than usual, yet the number of members who entered was if anything larger than is generally the case. It is to be hoped that more members will compete next month, and so make the competition more keen and interesting than it is even now. The scores are given below:—

Mr. C. A. Tomes	100	20	80
Mr. J. Hastings	95	14	81
Mr. C. E. Hume	91	6	85
Mr. E. W. Maitland	103	18	85
Mr. W. M. Thompson, R.E.	96	10	86
Capt. W. V. Eccles, R.B.	92	2	90
Mr. J. Stewart	97	5	92
Mr. C. H. Grace	106	12	94

SWEEP.

Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	89	11	78
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	89	10	79
Mr. C. E. Hume	91	6	85
Mr. C. A. Tomes	106	20	86
Mr. J. Stewart	97	5	92
Mr. J. Hastings	108	14	94
Mr. C. H. Grace	106	12	94

CRICKET.

CIVILIANS V. AN ARMY AND NAVY TEAM.

This match was commenced on Saturday afternoon and at the drawing of stumps just before time the Civilians had completed a first innings of 303. The chief contributors to this large total were W.M. Greenfield (15) and Ellis (53). The former exhibited great hitting powers, but he was fortunate in being let off by a slack field on several occasions. On the other hand Ellis gave no chance that we saw and played hard on the ball in all directions.

During the afternoon, by the kindness of Colonel Faithfull and officers, the Hongkong Regiment Band played a most pleasing selection of music.

The match was continued on Monday and resulted in an easy victory for the Civilians by one innings and 120 runs. The Army and Navy team were disposed of for the small totals of 49 and 134 runs, mainly due to the fine bowling of Lawson, who was bowling in quite his old form of a few seasons back. In all, he took 12 wickets at a cost of 64 runs.

CIVILIANS.

J. A. Lawson, c Eccles, b Sheldford	20
A. S. Anton, c Bedwell, b Sheldford	18
W. M. Greenfield, c Knox, b Eccles	95
S. L. Darby, b Sheldford	9
F. Maitland, b Green	36
J. R. Gillingham, b Sheldford	2
E. C. Ellis, St. Peade, b Eccles	53
R. F. Lammert, b Knox	25
A. Anderson, c Sheldford, b Eccles	8
H. Arthur, b Eccles	5
F. Lammert, not out	5
Extras	27
Total	303

ARMY & NAVY.

Sergt. Burton, R.B., b Lawson	0	b Gillingham	6
S. E. Holland, R.B., b Lawson	7	b Gillingham	18
Capt. W. V. Eccles, R.B., b Darby	20	b Lawson	0
Lieut. S. Perry-Ayscough, R.N.,			
l.b.w., b Lawson	7	l.b.w., Lawson	6
G. R. Blount, R.N., b Lawson	0	c Maitland, b Gillingham	13
H. B. Bedwell, R.N., b Lawson	0	b Lawson	1
V. Marryat, R.N., b Lawson	4	b Gillingham	7
C. W. Knox, R.B., b Lawson	0	b Lawson	21
Pte. Green, R.B., not out	6	b Lawson	12
Surgeon J. H. Peard, R.N., did not bat		b Gillingham	37
Lieut. T. Sheldford, R.N., did not bat		not out	11
Extras	5	Extras	2
Total	49	Total	134

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

First Innings.

Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B. Wickets.
Lowson	8	2	18	7
Darby	7	2	26	1

Second Innings.

Lowson	23	9	46	5
Darby	15	1	49	—
Gillingham	10	4	24	5
Lammert	3	1	11	—

THE LAWN TENNIS HANDICAP.

The following are the first ties in the Cricket Club Lawn Tennis Tournament:—

CHAMPIONSHIP.

H. W. Slade	bye	J. M. Atkinson	—
G. Millard	—	C. C. Platt	—
C. W. Knox	—	C. H. Gale	—
A. S. Anton	—	Surg.-Major Johnston	—
W. Newton	—	C. A. Tomes	bye
F. Maitland	—	G. H. Potts	bye
C. V. Percival	—		

The winner of the above ties to play C. M. Firth, the present holder of the Championship.

DOUBLE HANDICAP.

J. S. Ezekiel and A. Anderson	receive 15	bye
R. Inglis and E. W. Maitland	owe 15	bye
Capt. Dyson and S. E. Holland	scratch	bye
A. S. Donald and G. A. Woodcock	receive 15	bye
H. M. Brown and E. E. Mackay	owe 15	bye
Surg.-Major Johnston and H. W. Slade	owe 15.1	
E. Meugens and E. C. Shepherd	receive 15	
G. Millard and W. Newton	owe 15	
C. A. Tomes and G. Stewart	owe 15	
C. M. Firth and F. Maitland	owe 30	
A. S. Anton and C. Platt	owe 15.3	
W. A. Cruickshank and W. D. Gresson	scratch	
D. Wood and F. D. Maclean	receive 15	
R. E. Humphreys and F. G. Collins	scratch	
E. A. Ram and G. H. Potts	owe 15.1	
T. S. Smith and J. M. Atkinson	owe 15.1	
Capt. Eccles and Capt. Ferguson	scratch	
C. V. Percival and C. W. Knox	owe 15.1	
K. W. Mounsey and E. J. Grist	owe 15.1	
F. B. Deacon and E. C. Hume	receive 15	bye
A. H. Mancell and R. H. Skelton	owe 15	bye
E. Hazeland and C. H. Gale	scratch	bye
S. Hanisch and R. H. Wade	receive 15	bye

"A" CLASS SINGLE HANDICAP.

Capt. Ferguson	scratch	bye
C. M. Firth	owe 30	bye
K. W. Mounsey	owe 15	bye
Surg.-Major Johnston	owe 15.1	
C. W. Knox	owe 30	
W. Newton	owe 15	
S. E. Holland	scratch	
G. H. Potts	owe 15	
A. S. Anton	owe 15.1	
G. Millard	owe 15	
C. V. N. Percival	owe 15.1	
H. W. Slade	owe 15.1	
C. A. Tomes	owe 15	
E. J. Grist	owe 15.1	
J. M. Atkinson	owe 15	
C. Laughton	owe 15	
W. D. Gresson	owe 15	
F. Maitland	owe 30	
C. H. Gale	owe 15	
E. Hazeland	owe 15	
R. H. Skelton	owe 15	
E. W. Maitland	owe 15	
Capt. Dyson	scratch	
S. Alliston	scratch	bye
E. F. Mackay	owe 15	bye
A. Anderson	receive 15	bye

"B" CLASS SINGLE HANDICAP.

W. Taylor	owe 15.2	bye
H. E. Boxshall	owe 15	bye
A. H. Mancell	owe 30	
R. E. Humphreys	owe 30	
R. E. Bellicio	receive 15	
F. Collins	owe 30	
J. A. Jupp	owe 30	
E. D. Shaw, R.N.	owe 15.2	
B. St. J. Bellairs, R.N.	owe 15	
J. S. Ezekiel	owe 15	
Capt. Welman	owe 15	
A. Donald	owe 15.2	
E. C. Shepherd	owe 15	
M. Fredericks	owe 15	

H. S. Cooke	owe 15
R. H. Wade	owe 15
E. J. Moses	receive 15
R. E. MacBirney	owe 15
F. B. Deacon	owe 15
E. S. Joseph	receive 15
C. H. Thompson	owe 15
O. Stewart	receive 15
H. Grant Smith	receive 15
S. Hanisch	owe 15
D. Wood	owe 30 bye
E. C. Hume	owe 15.2 bye
T. L. Stevens	owe 15 bye

PROFESSIONAL PAIRS.

K. W. Mounsey and E. J. Grist	Lawyers bye
H. M. Brown and E. F. Mackay	Merchants
C. M. Hazeland and C. H. Gale	Civil Service
Surg.-Major Johnston and Dr. Shaw, R.N.	Medical
L. K. Davies and R. Sparrow	Insurance
T. Sercombe Smith and J. M. Atkinson	Civil Service
W. C. Woodcock and P. G. Anderson	Army
R. Inglis and H. W. Slade	Merchants
G. Stewart and G. H. Potts	Brokers
F. Maitland and C. A. Tomes	Merchants
Capt. Eccles and Capt. Ferguson	Army
C. M. Firth and G. Millward	Shipping
C. V. Percival and C. W. Knox	Army
C. Paddy and E. C. Hume	Bankers bye

RIFLE SHOOTING.

1ST BATTALION RIFLE BRIGADE.

Major A. R. Pemberton, of the Rifle Brigade, having very generously presented a Cup to be shot for annually by the officers of the Battalion, the competition took place on the Kowloon ranges on Tuesday. The conditions attached to the Cup are as follows: "The Cup is presented in commemoration of the ninety-fifth anniversary of the raising of the regiment and is to remain the property of the Officers' Mess 1st Bn. Rifle Brigade. It may be as well to mention here that '95' was the original number of the regiment before it was called 'The Rifle Brigade'."

Each year's winner's name is to be engraved on the Cup.

Distances: 200, 500, and 600 yards. Kneeling at 200 and lying down (prone) at the other two.

Lieut. Power and Capt. Bethune tied with 89, but Lieut. Power's score at 600 being the best, he won the Cup for the year 1895.

The following are the best scores:—

	200	500	600	Total
2nd Lieut. D. Power	30	31	28	89
Capt. Patton Bethune	30	33	26	89
Capt. W. V. Eccles	28	30	26	84
Capt. A. G. Ferguson	23	33	27	83
Qr.-Mr. L. Hoey	23	28	27	78

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE DOCK COMPANY'S DIRECTORS' FEES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The Directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company lately sought the opinion of the shareholders re the proposal to subdivide the shares by sending to each one a circular which was to be signed for or against and then returned. By this means a *bona fide* expression of opinion was obtained. I suggest that this course be again adopted. I, for one, will be unable to attend the extraordinary meeting to be held 22nd June for the purpose of confirming the resolution which was passed at the late so called general meeting of the shareholders to double the Directors' fees and I find it impossible to obtain a proxy to oppose it.—I am, sir, yours &c.,

ABSENT SHAREHOLDER.

Canton, 4th April, 1896.

SCIENTIFIC OR "MILK AND WATER" EVIDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Many years ago when the greatly respected John Markham was Vice-Consul in Shanghai, before the establishment of the Supreme Court, a horse dealing case was brought before him. The defendant, who had bought a horse, refused to take delivery on the ground that the animal was lame. After hearing some evidence Mr. Markham asked

where the horse was. "It is here, outside the Court," was the reply. Without saying more Mr. Markham got off the bench, mounted the horse, rode it up to the other end of the French Bund and back, remounted the bench, and delivered the following characteristic judgment: "There is nothing wrong with the horse, judgment for the plaintiff." It is not my purpose merely to tell one of the many anecdotes which some old residents, of whom I believe there are one or two now in Hongkong, will remember about the genial Johnny Markham. This story, which is a true one, has an application to the milk case decided yesterday. I do not for a moment question my friend Mr. Crow's scientific attainments. He no doubt says cow's milk should contain so much water, so much casein, so much fat, etc. As Mr. Cooper would probably say about his double drainage with its resultant double-distilled stinks: "It is correct, I got it from a book," so Mr. Crow may say about milk. But notwithstanding the book the double drains are not correct in Hongkong, nor is Mr. Crow's analysis sufficient evidence that the milk contained added water. Mr. Crow should have milked the Hongkong cow himself and then made his analysis. The breed of the cow, the climate, the very different food, the condition of the animal, and the period of the year may all make a difference, and he might have found that the component parts were not "according to the book" and that the proportion of water was more than 83 per cent. Mr. Crow will admit that milk in England may contain 85 per cent. of water. I have no standard authority at hand, but a book I have just turned up gives it in one place as 86 and in another as from 80 to 89 per cent. It would not put the matter beyond doubt, but Mr. Crow when he comes down in the tram might step in to Kennedy's, see a cow milked himself, and after inspecting the bottle into which the milk is put take that and analyse it. I am not counsel for the defendant, nor am I suggesting that there had been any trickery on the part of the informant, but, although an unfortunate shareholder in the Dairy Farm Company, I have always used Kennedy's milk and shall continue to use it, and as I have frequently opened the bottles with my own hands I am able, if given two or three bottles, to show how the cork and seal may be transferred from one bottle to another. I could also show another and very simple way by which water could have been got into the milk. Mr. Kennedy may be guilty or he may be innocent, but it is better that ten guilty men escape than that one innocent one should suffer. No one questions the conscientiousness, intelligence, or legal acumen of the Magistrate, but the two or three persons who have spoken to me on the case, one of whom, although in no way connected with or a friend of Mr. Kennedy, was in Court during the hearing, are all of the opinion that the defendant was

INNOCENT.

Hongkong, 3rd April, 1896.

HONGKONG.

Foggy and humid weather has prevailed during the past week and probably this has accounted for an increase in the number of plague cases reported. On Saturday there were eighteen cases, the highest number recorded in one day this year. On Sunday there were ten cases, on Monday fourteen, on Tuesday nine, and yesterday there were eleven, the total for the year now reaching 426. It must be borne in mind, however, that the cases come from various parts of the colony and not from one particular district. The Legislative Council met on Thursday last, and at the Police Court on the same day Mr. J. Kennedy, a dairykeeper, was fined \$50 for selling adulterated milk. By the last English mail Sir Claude MacDonald arrived in Hongkong on his way to Peking as British Minister there, and on Saturday he was entertained to luncheon by the local branch of the China Association. Some excellent speeches were delivered, and the whole proceedings were characterised by much warmth and enthusiasm. The annual meeting of the Hongkong Rifle Association was held on Friday, Saturday, and Monday.

The Appropriation Ordinance for 1896 has been approved by Her Majesty.

Admiral Buller left for the North on Tuesday in his despatch vessel *Alacrity*.

The Danish steamer *Freja*, recently aground in the Hainan Straits, arrived in port on Friday. The damage sustained by the stranding is apparently not very considerable.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Cotton Yarn Guild \$32

A fire broke out at 4.30 a.m. on the 6th April in a salt fish shop in Salt Fish Street. The premises, which were insured with Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. for \$6,500, were completely gutted.

There were forty-three in-patients treated at the Alice Memorial Hospital last month and the number of out-patient visits was 1,099. At the Nethersole Hospital the numbers were 27 and 37 respectively.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he received the following cable from the manager at the mine on the 2nd April:—"The cyanide operations were started yesterday."

The third class good conduct medal was presented on the 2nd April to Inspectors Kemp and Baker and Sergeant Moffatt, and the fourth class medal to Inspector Duncan and Acting Inspectors Hannah and Witchell.

A Chinaman was charged at the Magistracy on the 6th April with removing the dead body of his child, who had died from plague. The defendant, who was met carrying the body in Queen's Road East, was fined \$25 or six weeks' imprisonment.

On Saturday afternoon Mr. J. M. Armstrong offered for sale by auction, under instructions from the liquidator of the New Oriental Bank Corporation, the Bungalow, Mount Kellett. The property was knocked down for \$2,700, the purchaser being Mr. W. J. Saunders.

At the Police Court on Tuesday, before Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Mr. A. H. Reunier, of Ice House Street, was summoned for driving a horse in a furious manner to the danger of passengers in the public road. The defendant admitted the offence and explained that the horse had lately arrived from Australia and was not accustomed to rickshas. A fine of \$15 was imposed.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram from the manager at the mine, being the result of the March clean up:—"The mill ran twenty-eight days, crushing 1,000 tons yielding 535 ounces of smelted gold. Twenty-three tons of concentrates were calcined, yielding 120 ozs. of gold." Total output for month 655 ozs.

At four o'clock on the morning on the 2nd April Police Sergeant Singh (588) shot himself with his revolver in Glenealy, just above Caine Road. He was found lying in the road by a Chinese constable and when further assistance was brought the sergeant was still breathing. He was removed to the Central Police Station, but he died on the way. It is said he has shown signs of head weakness of late.

From Canton we learn that there seems to be a desire on the part of the higher officials to conciliate the people and introduce some fiscal reform if possible, for notices have been posted in the city for some time informing the people that they are not required to pay more than the legal rates at the different Customs stations throughout the country and that officials proved to be guilty of levying squeezes will be punished for it.

A very pleasant ceremony was performed in the compound of the Central Police Station on Monday afternoon, when Acting Deputy Superintendent Corcoran presented, on behalf of members of the force, a very handsome silver tea service to Inspector and Mrs. Hennessey. Mr. Corcoran made a very appropriate speech and mentioned that the presentation was made in commemoration of the marriage of Inspector Hennessey, who was held in very high esteem by every member of the force, and all were glad to see him back again in the colony in good health. Inspector Hennessey returned thanks for the handsome present and then tea and tennis were indulged in.

There were 1,564 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 137 were Europeans.

At the Police Court on Saturday, before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, a servant boy in the employ of Colour-Sergeant Waight, of Victoria Barracks, was charged with stealing his master's property. On the 2nd inst. a gold bangle was missed from Waight's room, and as the boy had absconded the police were informed and he was arrested at Hunghom. Not only was the bangle found in his possession, but also \$2 which he had stolen from his master and a jacket and a pair of trousers belonging to a comrade of Waight. The prisoner was sent to gaol for four months and twenty-one days altogether.

The colonial revenue last year amounted to \$2,486,228, being \$207,700 more than in 1894. The expenditure was \$2,972,373 (including \$837,842 for public works extraordinary), an increase on the previous year of \$673,277. The assets on the 31st December amounted to \$972,354, of which \$573,000 was in subsidiary coins, and the liabilities to \$414,980, leaving a balance of \$557,374. The balance of the 1893 loan was \$729,282, so that independently of the loan account the liabilities exceeded the assets by \$171,908. Against this, however, should be set the value of the resumed area in Taipingshan, which does not appear in the statement of assets.

On the morning of the 2nd April Acting Chief Inspector Mackie and Inspector Hanson each received the following complimentary letter from His Excellency the Governor:—"The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police having brought to my notice the arduous work already performed and still being performed by you beyond your ordinary police duties in connection with measures for the suppression of the recent outbreak of bubonic plague, it is my pleasure to convey to you an expression of my personal thanks for the zeal and energy which you have displayed and are displaying in furtherance of the public health and welfare.—WILLIAM ROBINSON, Governor."

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st March, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, National Bank of China, Limited,	\$1,520,295 5,447,385 412,962	1,000,000 2,500,000 212,000

Total.....\$7,380,542 3,712,000

By the P. & O. steamer *Formosa* on Tuesday His Honour Mr. Justice Wise, Puisne Judge, Mr. A. K. Travers, Postmaster-General, and Mr. H. C. Nicolle, Local Auditor, went home on leave. In consequence of these departures the following appointments are announced in the *Gazette*:—Hon. A. M. Thomson to be Acting Postmaster-General, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith to be Acting Puisne Judge, Captain Hastings to be Acting Police Magistrate, Mr. H. B. Lethbridge to be Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, and Mr. E. M. Knox to be Acting Local Auditor. Mr. Travers, we believe, is not likely to return; he is in the fortunate position of being independent of the Service and it is reported that he intends to retire. He will carry with him the good wishes of the whole community. Mr. Wise and Mr. Nicolle we hope to see back amongst us in due course and in the meantime we wish them both a pleasant holiday.

Two fires broke out in the colony on the morning of the 1st April. The first alarm was given at five o'clock, when the Brigade turned out to an outbreak at 288, Queen's Road West, a two storey building occupied by a tobacconist and druggist. The fire originated on the first floor owing to the upsetting of a kerosine lamp and before the flames were extinguished the first floor was gutted and nearly the whole of the ground floor was destroyed by fire and water. The place is insured with Messrs. Siemssen and Co. in the Transatlantic Fire Insurance Company for \$3,000. A quarter of an hour after the first alarm was given the second fire broke out at 3,

Winglok Street, which is a Chinese drapery store. A portion of the Brigade attended this fire and succeeded in confining it to the one building, which was completely gutted. The origin of the fire is not known. The building was insured with Messrs. Siemssen and Co. in the Sun Fire Insurance Company for \$10,000. There was a plentiful supply of fresh and salt water, so that the firemen, who were under Hon. Commander Hastings and Deputy Superintendent Corcoran, lost no time in getting to work. After the fire was extinguished the ruins were searched and cash to the value of about \$1,500 was recovered.

At the Police Court on the 31st March, before Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, C. Holdsworth, of the Mica Works, was charged with discharging firearms to the danger of the public on the 27th March. Evidence was given by a ricksha coolie in the employ of Inspector J. Corcoran to the effect that he was taking Mrs. Corcoran for a ricksha ride in the direction of Quarry Bay on the 27th instant. Inspector Corcoran's dog was with them, and when passing the defendant's house the animal ran into the yard and commenced worrying the chickens. Witness told a coolie to go in and fetch the dog, which he did. Defendant then appeared on the verandah with a gun, which he fired in the direction of the dog, the bullet striking the road a short distance in front of it. Mrs. Corcoran then came up in the ricksha and spoke to defendant. The dog was tied up after the gun was fired. The defence was that the dog was worrying a guinea fowl in defendant's compound, and that defendant fired at it with the intention of frightening it. He saw no one in the road at the time, but directly afterwards Mrs. Corcoran came up in a ricksha, and stopped opposite his house. Had he been dressed at the time he would have gone down and apologised. His Worship convicted and imposed a fine of \$10.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We (*Singapore Free Press*) hear that Mr. A. Kidd, surveyor to Lloyd's Register, has recommended the sale of the wreck of the steamer *Spondilus*, as she lies off Cape Varolla, as all attempts to get her off would be useless. The steamer has had the bottom knocked out of her for a length of 190 feet from the stem.

Owing to great depreciation of silver at Nanking consequent upon the scarcity of copper coins, H. E. Liu Kunyi has instructed the Provincial Treasurer to at once provide funds for the coinage of copper cash. A sum of twenty thousand taels has now been set apart from the Nanking Treasury for the purchase of machinery and materials, to effect which a deputy will be sent immediately to Shanghai. The coining will be done at the Nanking Arsenal as soon as the machinery is ready.—*Mercury*.

Referring to the strength of the Russian squadron in the Far East the *Singapore Free Press* of the 30th March says:—The Russian cruiser *Dimitri Donskoi* left Port Said on 3rd March for China, and the *Rurik*, for the same destination, left on the following day. The curious thing is that these ships should be twenty-six and twenty-seven days out from Port Said, and they do not appear to have turned up anywhere en route. We hear privately to-day, however, that they are expected at Singapore, but not for some time yet.

It is reported that on account of the bad weather lately experienced in the Poyang Lake, Chinese junks have suffered very greatly from the effects of the storms. The inhabitants dwelling on those shores applied to the authorities of Kiangsi some time ago to place some small steamers or some launches for towing purposes on that line, but were unsuccessful in their efforts. It is, however, now reported that Chang Chih-tung has applied to the Throne for permission to do so, and in his application he has asked that no competition shall be allowed for fifteen years.—*Mercury*.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.	
EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.	
1895-96	1894-95
lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai.....	27,240,863 22,555,223

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	7,146,099	7,818,790
Amoy	760,842	772,692
Foochow	11,175,408	14,357,248
Shanghai and Hankow.....	21,111,512	21,591,499
	40,493,861	44,535,229

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Amoy.....	14,665,055	19,447,739
Foochow	6,066,651	4,626,555
Shanghai	29,029,320	25,796,160
	49,761,026	49,870,454

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1895-96	1894-95
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	29,801,404	28,686,847
Kobe	18,625,900	16,726,614
	48,427,304	45,413,461

SILK.

CANTON, 7th April.—Tsatees and Re-reels.—We have no business to report in these classes and prices are purely nominal. Filatures have dropped another \$20 per picul and the lower level of prices has induced rather more enquiry. The general tone of the trade, however, remains very dull, and advices from the foreign markets continue unimproved. Sales include Min King Lun and Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13 at \$635/630, 13/15 at \$625/620, Wing Wo Lun and Cheong Kee (Best) 9/11 at \$622½, Quin Kwong Kee 9/11 at \$610, Kwong Ho 11/13 at \$605, Po Lun Sang 10/12 at \$590, How King Cheong 14/16 at \$572½, Yee Wo Cheong 18/22 at \$517½, King Wo Cheong 18/22 at \$500, Yee Wo Lun 11/13, 13/15 at \$510/500. There is no enquiry for America. Waste is unchanged with a moderate business doing at former quotations. Stocks:—Tsatees, 5/600 bales; Filature, 8/10,000 bales, reeled and unreeled, to close of season. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 6 months' sight 2/2½ and Fcs. 2.83 per Dollar:—

Teatles	No. 1 \$490	Nominal.	= 9/1
	No. 2 \$475		
	No. 3 \$460		
	No. 4 \$440		
	No. 4½ \$430		
	No. 5 \$415	Nominal.	= 8/9½
Filature 1st class 11/13...	\$630 to \$620		
1st „ 13/15...	\$630 to \$620		
2nd „ 9/11...	\$615 to \$620		
2nd „ 10/12...	\$595 to \$610		
2nd „ 13/15...	\$585 to \$595	Nominal.	= 8/2
2nd „ 10/12...	\$585 to \$595		
3rd „ 11/13	\$500 to \$490		
3rd „ 13/15	\$510 to \$490		
Long-reels Lacklow	\$465	Grant-reel.	= 8/1
Satow	\$460		
Suilam	\$430		
Re-reeled Lacklow No. 1...	\$515		
No. 2...	\$500		
No. 3...	\$485	Grant-reel.	= 7/8½
No. 4...	\$465		
Mahang ...No. 1...	\$490		
Punjum Books No. 3 & 4...	\$84 to \$85=1/7½ to 1/7½		
Punjum Waste	\$73 =1/5½		
Steam Waste Extra	\$97 =1/10½		
Market, Extra ...	\$77 =1/6½		
No. 1	\$59 to \$60=1/2½ to 1/2½		
Gum Waste No. 2 ...	\$50 =1/4		
Re-reel Waste	\$86 =1/8		
Pierced Cocoons	\$64 to \$65=1/3½ to 1/3½	Nominal.	= 1/8
Settlements for the fortnight:—			
1895-96.	1894-95.		
For Europe ... 500 bales	400 bales		
For America ..	150 „		
For Bombay .. 50 „	— „		
[& 10 piculs.]			

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1894-95
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai.....	48,858	47,202
Canton.....	15,690	14,696
Yokohama	19,757	19,196
	84,305	81,094

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN
TO AMERICA.

	1895-96 bales.	1894-95 bales.
Canton	9,244	8,268
Shanghai	9,508	7,573
Yokohama	27,221	22,921
	45,973	38,762

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—Supplies continue to come forward and a further decline in prices has taken place. Quotations for Formosa are \$72.50 to \$73.00. During the past week sales have been 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—The market is firmer and prices are advancing. Following are the quotations:—

Shackloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.25 to 7.28 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.65 to 6.67 "
Shackloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.64 to 4.67 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.58 to 4.60 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.12 to 7.15 "
do. " 2, White...	6.58 to 6.60 "
do. " 1, Brown...	4.58 to 4.60 "
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.50 to 4.52 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.00 to 11.05 "
Shackloong	9.62 to 9.67 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Ghazee*, Hongkong to New York, 22nd March, took:—3,643 packages Fire Crackers, 500 rolls Matting, 57 cases Chinaware, 14 cases Fans, 50 bales Canes, and 1,586 packages Merchandise.

The German steamer *Frigga*, Hongkong to Port Said, 24th March, took:—1 case Camphor; for Havre:—2 packages China Ink, 164 bales Bamboo Canes, 33 cases Chinaware, 1 case Earthenware, 15 cases Blackwoodware, 600 cases Cassia Ligna, 200 bales Broken Cassia, 44 rolls Matting, 4 cases Bristles, 1 bale Chinacoot, 1 bale Galangal, 1 case Ginger, 4 boxes Ginger, and 3 cases Rice Paper; for Havre option Hamburg:—235 bales Canes, and 1 case Silk; for Havre option Hamburg option London:—697 cases Camphor; for Havre option Hamburg option London option Antwerp: 120 bales Feathers; for Hamburg:—1,000 cases Broken Cassia, 300 cases Cassia Buds, 177 packages Canes, 10 packages Lady Crackers, 1 box Paper, 37 cases Chinaware, 20 rolls Matting, 62 bales Rattans, 4 cases Tea, 54 cases Camphor, 5 cases Feathers, 10 cases Bambooware, 6 boxes Camphorwood Boxes, 50 cases Blank Cartridges, 3 cases Preserves, and 15 packages Merchandise; for Hamburg option Bremen:—500 boxes Cassia Ligna; for Antwerp:—29 bales Hemp, 5 cases Cigars, and 50 cases Bristles; for Bremen:—2 cases Cigars; for London:—5 cases Teasticks, 4 cases Preserves, and 8 cases Preserves; for Lisbon:—4 cases Porcelain, and 1 case Personal Effects.

The British steamer *Queen Olga*, Hongkong to New York, 25th March, took:—8,133 rolls Matting, 387 packages Rattan Furniture, 42 packages Chinaware, 9 cases Human Hair, 7 boxes Silk, 100 packages Fire Crackers, 26 boxes Drugs, 60 cases Heather Scrub, and 861 packages Merchandise.

The P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, Hongkong to London, 26th March, took:—140 bales Canes, 7 cases Silk Piece Goods, and 1 case Silver ware; for France:—261 bales Raw Silk, 75 rolls Matting, and 1 case Silk Piece Goods.

The German steamer *Preussen*, Hongkong to Antwerp, 31st March, took:—238 bales Bamboo Scraps, 212 bales Feathers, 200 bales Bamboo, 100 bales Rattan core, 100 rolls Matting, 39 cases Bristles, 26 cases Blackwoodware, 5 bales Canes, 4 cases Chinaware, and 2 cases Merchandise; for Hamburg:—725 packages Fire Crackers, 719 bales Feathers, 21 cases Ginger, and 1 case Merchandise; for Bremen:—12 cases Sundries, 10 cases Ginger, and 2 cases Cassia Ligna; for London:—3 boxes Treasure, (\$157,000); for Genoa:—150 bales Waste Silk, 25 packages Fire Crackers, and 10 cases Aniseed Oil; for Lisbon:—36 cases Merchandise; for Rotterdam:—5 cases Private Effects; for Amsterdam:—64 bales Bamboo, 48 cases Chinaware, 41 cases Tea Sticks, 12 packages Tea, 5 bales Canes, and 4 packages Camphor wood trunks; for Aden:—3 packages Monuments; for Alexandria:—20 cases Glass Bangles; for Beyrouth:—5 cases Glass Bangles; for Liverpool:—10 bales Wool.

The French steamer *Ernest Simons*, Hongkong to Continent, 1st April, took:—284 bales Raw

Silk, 13 cases Silk Piece Goods, 3 cases Chinaware, 550 packages Tea, 3 packages Hair, 1 case Curios, 1 box Watches, and 1 package Rattan Chairs.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—Bengal.—There has been a further decline in prices owing to a falling off in the demand. New Patna closes at \$752½, Old Patna at \$775, New Benares at \$740, and Old Benares at \$790.

Malwa.—A small business has passed in this drug during the interval. Rates continue as when last quoted, the following being the latest figures:—

New	\$750 with all'ance of 2½ to 4 cts.
Old (2/3 yrs.)	\$760 " 0 to 2½ "
Older	780 " 1 to 2½ "
Persian	Transactions have been very meagre.
Paper-wrapped	has slightly declined, being quoted at the close at \$650 to \$690, while Oily has remained at \$600 to \$630, according to quality.
To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—	
New Patna	830 chests
Old Patna	750 "
New Benares	480 "
Old Benares	100 "
Malwa	190 "
Persian	1,420 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.						
April 1	757½	780	742½	785	750/760	780
April 2	760	782½	747½	790	750/760	780
April 3	760	780	748½	790	750/760	780
April 4	757½	780	747½	790	750/760	780
April 5	757½	780	747½	790	750/760	780
April 6	757½	780	747½	790	750/760	780
April 7	755	777½	745	790	750/760	780
April 8	752½	775	740	790	750/760	780

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 2nd April.—Although stocks of Bengal Cotton may be considered heavy, the dealers seem willing still to pay current rates. Consequently a fair quantity has been booked during the fortnight. Stocks: Bengal, about 6,500 bales, Ningpo about 200 bales.

Bombay	\$12.00 to 16.00 p. picul.
Kurrachee	12.00 to 15.50 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca	14.25 to 15.50 "
Shanghai and Japanese ..	19.00 to 21.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	19.80 to 20.00 "
Malras	13.00 to 17.00 "
Sales: 1,000 bales Bengal, Rangoon and Dacca; 100 bales Tungchow and Ningpo.	

RICE.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—The market is weak and declining. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	per picul. \$2.37 to 2.40
" Round, good quality	2.60 to 2.63
" Long	2.70 to 2.72
Saim, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.56 to 2.58
" Garden, " No. 1 ..	2.77 to 2.80
" White	3.10 to 3.13
" Fine Cargo	2.26 to 2.29

COALS.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—There is no change to report in the position of the market. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$12.00 to — ex ship, nominal.
Australian ..	7.25 to 8.00 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Lump ..	\$5.60 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small ..	4.85 to — ex ship, do
Moji Lump ..	4.00 to 5.50 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Lump ..	6.00 to 7.00 ex ship, nominal.
Kebao Small ..	4.00 to 4.50 ex ship, nominal.
Hongay Lump ..	7.00 to — ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PRICE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—455 bales No. 10 at \$73.50 to \$77.50, 485 bales No. 12 at \$71.50 to \$76, 270 bales No. 16 at \$85 to \$90, 670 bales No. 20 at \$88 to \$92. Grey Shirtings.—4,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Peach at \$2.75, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dogs at \$2.92½. White Shirtings.—250 pieces M. O. at \$4.85, 750 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.55, 250 pieces Flower Basket at \$2.45, 4,000 pieces S. Q. at \$1.05, 3,000 pieces No. 300 at \$3.30, 600 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.35 to \$5.10, 1,000 pieces Gold Goose at \$3.95, 1,000 pieces Peacock at \$3.17½, 1,000 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.45, 500 pieces Gold Sea Otter at \$4.50, 1,000 pieces No. 600 at \$4.05.

METALS:—Tin.—150 slabs Siam at \$85.25, 150 slabs Malacca at \$85.25. Quicksilver.—50 flasks at \$112.

SHANGHAI, 2nd April.—(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade report.)—The curtailment of the usual week by one day, owing to the Easter holidays, is not conducive, with the market in its present state, to the framing of a very exhaustive report, in fact outside of the auctions there has been scarcely anything done. And this in spite of fairly satisfactory news received from Newchwang, for which dealers professed they were waiting! They cannot be blamed, however, for the policy they are pursuing, and if Importers elect to do in three months what is sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the trade for six or seven they must be contented to wait patiently until the supply requires replenishment. Nor do present home prices offer any inducement, in the majority of cases, for replacing sales, which can only be done about on a parity with the values now ruling, when any moment may see a serious decline in Cotton or rise in sterling rates. It is satisfactory, therefore, to find Importers, with but a solitary exception, are working in harmony, and are not trying to force goods on the natives, for there can be no doubt about it in the long run the "give and take" policy is the best to follow in this market. Very meagre details have leaked out as to what is doing in Newchwang, but from what can be gathered Piece Goods are going off satisfactorily. Cotton Yarn, on the other hand, is said to be one to two taels under what was expected. The large quantity sent up of the former, however, requires a certain amount of manipulation in order to keep quotations steady, and the dealers are evidently determined not to rush it. Of the Tientsin market, too, details continue to be very scarce, and it is only in a round about way that it is possible to get any inkling of what is doing. The Customs daily returns have been unusually interesting this week, the very large and miscellaneous cargo taken by the s. s. *Tym* to Vladivostok being a study in itself, showing what an important dependency that market is destined to be on the trade of this port. English Sheetings and Drills, White Shirtings and T-Cloths occupy the most prominent positions amongst the re-exports. Clearances all round are very satisfactory, and show more plainly the state of the markets at the out-ports than the current business does.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—Business has not been very brisk during the week under review, chiefly owing to the intervention of the Easter holidays. Rates have in most instances slackened up a little (except in Marines and Mining) and market closes less strong than we have had to report for the last few mails.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—We have nothing of any importance to report; small sales at 190 per cent. prem. have taken place and the market closes dull at that rate. Nationals after further small sales at \$32 have been negotiated at \$31½ and \$31½, closing steady at latter rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have improved to \$212½ with sales; China Traders to \$79½, also with sales. Yangtszes on the publication of a good report have jumped to Tls. 160 and close with buyers at that rate. An enquiry for Straits from the North has resulted in a rise to \$27½ with but few sales between that and \$26, the closing rate in our last. North Chinas and Cantons have ruled neglected at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs in the early part of the week further improved to \$340 and sales were reported as high as \$350; this last rate, however, was not verified and we have doubts as to its genuineness; at time of closing shares are obtainable at \$340. Chinas have changed hands at \$97 and close steady at that.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have been almost totally neglected with little or no business. Small buyers offer \$33½, and sellers ask \$33½, without being able to come to terms. Indo-Chinas have continued in strong demand up North, resulting in sales at \$69, \$70, and \$70½ for 30th inst. and at equivalent, or a little better than equivalent, rates further ahead. The market closes steady at \$70 cash. Douglasses continue somewhat neglected with shares on offer at \$51½ to \$51½, and at equivalent rates forward. China Mutuals are on offer at quotations, with no business to report. China Manilas have ruled neglected.

REFINERIES.—Both Chinas and Luzons have again fallen out of the market and we have no business to report.

MINING.—The boom in Punjoms reported in our last continuing, rates rose quickly with sales at \$9, \$10, \$11, \$12, \$12½, \$13, \$13½, to \$14, at all of which rates a fair number of shares changed hands. Telegrams from the mines announcing the setting up of the cyanide machinery and an outturn of 655 oz. for March from the ordinary crushings are responsible for the rise. At time of writing market is a little quieter and shares are obtainable at \$13.25. Raubs have ruled steady with sales at \$5.25, \$5.50, and \$5.75, closing easier with sellers from Singapore at \$5.25. Jebeus have improved to \$5.25, and Lalmorals to \$3, both with sales.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Lands have remained neglected with but small sales at \$73½ and \$73. Hotels have changed hands at \$25, and more are wanted at the rate. West Points neglected.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks further advanced to 178 per cent. prem. cash, after sales at 176 and 177. A fair number changed hands at 180 for end of the month, 182 and 185 for June, and at 187 for July; market closes easier at 178 per cent. prem. with cash sellers. Kowloon Wharfs have changed hands at \$48, \$47½, and \$47, closing at last rate. Wanchai Godowns neglected.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watsons have found further buyers at \$13. Browns are enquired for at \$5 without finding sellers. Electrics have been negotiated at \$7.10 and \$7.15. Ropes at \$191 to \$195, closing strong at latter rate, Ices at \$104 and \$105, Tramways at \$94 and \$95, and Fenwicks at \$26. All Shanghai Cotton Mills show a slight decline.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$362½, sellers
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	190 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$32, sales & sellers
Founders Shares...	£1	\$115, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s.	\$9
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	\$5, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$5, buyers
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$3
China Sugar	\$100	\$125, sellers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$4, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$26, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$16½, sellers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$7.15, sales
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$95, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$25, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$105, sales
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$47, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$195, sales & buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	178 p. ct. prem. =
Insurances—		[\$348.50, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$200
China Fire	\$50	\$97, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$79½, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$340, sales
North-China	£25	Tls. 230
Straits	\$20	\$27½, buyers
Union	\$25	\$212½, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$160, sales & buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$73½, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9.75, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$13
West Point Building	\$40	\$18½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$69, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$72½
Jebeu	\$5	\$3.25, buyers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$3, sales & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$5.50, sales
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$2.75
Punjom	\$4	\$13.25, sales & buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.10, sales & buyers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$5.25
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$66, sales & sellers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£3.16, sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£8.10, sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$52, sales & sellers
H., Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$33½
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$70, sales
Wanchai Wareh'se Co.	\$37½	\$39, sales
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$13, sales & sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 2nd April.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—There has been a fairly active market, chiefly in Bank and Insurance shares. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The news that the Chinese Loan was to be placed on the London market on the 31st ultimo, at 298.15.0 per cent., caused a strong demand for shares, which were placed at 190 per cent. to 192 per cent. premium for cash, 193 per cent. for April, 196 per cent. for June and 200 to 204 per cent. premium for August. We quote 190 per cent. premium as the closing rate. National Bank of China.—Shares have been sold at \$30. Bank of China and Japan.—The third call of 10 shillings on the Ordinary shares is due to-day. There is no business to report in the stock. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have changed hands at Tls. 50, and there are sellers at the same rate. China Mutual S. N. ordinary shares, with 25 paid up, are obtainable at £3. H. C. & M. Steamboat shares are quoted \$33.75 in Hongkong, and Douglas shares at \$52. Docks.—Boysds have changed hands at Tls. 200, and Farnham's at Tls. 192½ for cash and Tls. 196½ for June. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' shares were purchased locally at \$79, and from Hongkong at \$79 and 78½. Unions have been placed at \$210. Yangtze shares have been freely dealt in at rapidly advancing rates, \$145 to \$150 for cash, \$150½ for April delivery. Straits have been sold at \$26.50 to \$26.75 for cash and \$28 for July, all ex dividend. Fire Insurance.—Shares have been in strong demand in Hongkong, the result of raising the rate of premium on Chinese risks there, and Hongkongs have been sold at \$315 locally, and to Hongkong at \$322½ to \$335. They are now quoted \$342½ in Hongkong. Chinas have also been sold to Hongkong at \$93 to \$95 for cash. Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been placed at Tls. 115 for cash, Tls. 117½ for May, and Tls. 120 for June delivery. Cash shares are wanted. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf shares have been purchased from Hongkong at \$17½. Mining.—Punjom Mining shares have been sold at \$7. The Hongkong quotation is \$8.75. Raubs are wanted, a dividend of 6d. per share having been declared. The Hongkong quotation is \$5.50. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares have been sold at Tls. 43. There is no business reported in other Sugar stocks. Land.—Shanghai Land Investment shares have been placed at Tls. 80, Tls. 60 and Tls. 59. Hongkong Land Investment shares have been purchased from Hongkong at \$73. Factories.—Major Bros. shares have been sold, and are wanted, at Tls. 30. Ewos and Internationals are offering. Shanghai Waterworks shares changed hands at Tls. 220, Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 325, Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 67½ to Tls. 70, and Hull and Holtz shares at \$36 ex div. Loans.—Shanghai Land Debentures of 1892 were sold at Tls. 105.

WEDNESDAY, 8th April. CLOSING QUOTATIONS. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	—
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.77
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.82
ON GERMANY.	
On demand	2.24
ON NEW YORK.	
Bank Bills, on demand	53½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½
ON BOMBAY.	
Telegraphic Transfer	184
Bank, on demand	184½
ON CALCUTTA.	
Telegraphic Transfer	184
Bank, on demand	184½
ON SHANGHAI.	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.	
On demand	1 % pm.
ON MANILA.	
On demand	16 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.	
On demand	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	8.93
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	46.75

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 8th April.—During the past fortnight a fair number of settlements have been effected, but rates have weakened somewhat. From Saigon to Hongkong for medium-sized steamers the rate is about 13 cents, but for large boats not more than 11/12 cents is obtainable. Bangkok to Hongkong there is very little enquiry and the quotation now is about 12½ and 17½ cents only. Newchwang to Canton three settlements have been made at 21½ cents. From Japan coal ports there is a fair enquiry for tonnage from Moji to Hongkong, \$1.50 being offered, and to Singapore \$2 or slightly better being obtainable. Sailing tonnage.—The late settlements for New York appear to have satisfied present requirements and there is now little or no enquiry. For San Francisco another boat might be taken up at about \$2.50 per ton.

There are 4 vessels disengaged in port, registering 3,504 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Gerard C. Tobey—American barque, 1,380 tons, Hongkong to New York, private terms.
Lucy A. Nickels—American barque, 1,330 tons, Hongkong to New York, private terms.
Australia—German steamer, 1,350 tons, Takao to Yokohama, \$9,200 in full.
Inverlay—British steamer, 827 tons, Takao to Yokohama, 18 cents per picul.
Kueiyang—British steamer, 1,862 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 21½ cents per picul.
Tamsui—British steamer, 1,062 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 21½ cents per picul.
A China Navigation Co. steamer, Newchwang to Canton, 20½ cents per picul.
Australia—German steamer, 1,380 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.
Glenfalloch—British steamer, 1,434 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.
Mathilde—German steamer, 676 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.55 per ton.
Cassius—German steamer, 1,606 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.55 per ton.
Chusan—German steamer, 719 tons, Saigon to Hoilo, 25 cents per picul.
China—German steamer, 1,093 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14½ cents per picul.
Tetartos—German steamer, 1,811 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
Afridi—British steamer, 2,354 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, \$9,000 in full.
Deuteros—German steamer, 1,251 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.
J. Christensen—Norwegian steamer, 1,107 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Ingraban—German steamer, 894 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
Skuld—Norwegian steamer, 1,132 tons, monthly, 6 months, private terms.
Chusan—German steamer, 719 tons, monthly, 6/3 months, \$3,850 per month.
Frejr—Danish steamer, 399 tons, monthly, 6/1 months, \$4,000 per month.
Skarpno—Norwegian steamer, 1,140 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$5,800 per month.
Strathesk—British steamer, 1,454 tons, monthly, 2 months, 5s. 9d. registered ton.
Cosmopolit—German steamer, 551 tons, monthly, 6 months, private terms.
Kong Alf—Norwegian steamer, 502 tons, to Tournon and back, monthly, \$110 per day.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Shanghai (str.), Pingsuey (str.), Dardanus (str.), Turbo (str.), Priam (str.).
For HAVRE.—Dorothea Rickmers (str.), Kriemhild (str.).
For BREMEN.—Sachsen (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Salazie (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Coloma, Queen Elizabeth, China (str.).
For VICTORIA.—Tacoma (str.), Allmore (str.).
For NEW YORK.—T. F. Oakes, Tam O'Shanter, Glenartney (str.), Lucy A. Nickels.
For AUSTRALIA.—Ocampo (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

April—ARRIVALS.
1, Triumph, German str., from Hoilow.
1, Exe, British str., from Saigon.
2, Ingraban, German str., from Saigon.
2, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.

2, Nestor, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Cheang H. Teng, Brit. str., from S'pore.
 2, Irene, German str., from Hamburg.
 2, Maple Branch, British str., from Hamburg.
 2, Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
 3, Frejr, Danish str., from Hoihow.
 3, Macduff, British str., from Saigon.
 3, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
 3, Kalgan, British str., from Chefoo.
 3, Independent, German str., from Saigon.
 3, Pekin, British str., from Bombay.
 3, Retriever, Amr. sch., from Loochoo Island.
 3, Hong Leong, British str., from S'pore.
 3, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
 3, Chusan, German str., from Canton.
 3, Sarpedon, British str., from Singapore.
 3, Mongkut, British str., from Bangkok.
 3, Marie Jebens, German str., from Saigon.
 3, Braemar, British str., from Singapore.
 3, Tacoma, British str., from Tacoma.
 3, Palinurus, British str., from Liverpool.
 3, Apenrade, German str., from Saigon.
 4, Osborn, British str., from Bombay.
 4, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
 4, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 4, Loyal, Dutch str., from Moji.
 5, Canton, British str., from Canton.
 5, China, British str., from San Francisco.
 5, Chingping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 5, Formosa, British str., from Yokohama.
 5, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 5, Glenearn, British str., from London.
 5, Inverlay, British str., from Manila.
 5, Jacob Christensen, Ger. str., from Saigon.
 5, Java, British str., from London.
 5, Memnon, British str., from Sandakan.
 5, Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.
 5, Pakhoi, British str., from Shanghai.
 5, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.
 5, P. C. C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
 5, Picciola, German str., from Iloilo.
 5, Propontis, British str., from Saigon.
 5, Strathesk, British str., from Mororan.
 5, Yungping, Chinese str., from Tientsin.
 5, Orchio, British str., from Saigon.
 6, Aglaia, German str., from Kobe.
 6, Ancena, British str., from Yokohama.
 6, Kwong Mo, British str., from Tamsui.
 6, Wingsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 6, Wivern, British cr., from a cruise.
 6, Ask, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
 7, Formosa, British str., from Swatow.
 7, Donar, German str., from Saigon.
 7, Frogner, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
 7, Menmuir, British str., from Sydney.
 7, Rio, German str., from Singapore.
 7, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
 7, Ulysses, British str., from Liverpool.
 7, Velocity, British bark, from Honolulu.
 7, Benvenue, British str., from Saigon.
 7, Kaiser-i-Hind, Brit. str., from Shanghai.
 7, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.

APRIL—DEPARTURES.

1, Benledi, British str., for Saigon.
 1, Amigo, German str., for Bangkok.
 1, Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
 1, Cheangchew, British str., for Swatow.
 1, City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. F'cisco.
 1, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 2, Canton, British str., for Canton.
 2, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Turbo, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Argyll, British str., for Saigon.
 2, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Highland Forest, British bark, for Callao.
 2, Satsuma Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 2, Oscarshol, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 2, Activ, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 2, Fuk Po, Chinese transp., for Swatow.
 2, Catherine Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
 2, Changsha, British str., for Kobe.
 2, Siam, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Brunhilde, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 3, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Nestor, British str., for Singapore.
 3, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 3, Kriemhild, German str., for Hamburg.
 4, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 4, Charon Wattana, Siam. bk., for Bangkok.
 4, Gen. Alava, Spanish troopship, for Manila.
 4, Cheang H. Teng, British str., for Amoy.
 4, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
 4, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 4, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
 4, Kweiyang, British str., for Chefoo.
 4, Rohilla, British str., for London.

4, Wivern, British cr., for a cruise.
 5, Braemar, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Glenorchy, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Keong Wai, British str., for Bangkok.
 5, Maple Branch, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Martha, German str., for Saigon.
 5, Palinurus, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Phra Nang, British str., for Bangkok.
 5, Pekin, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Sarpedon, British str., for Amoy.
 6, Canton, British str., for Swatow.
 6, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
 6, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 6, Irene, German str., for Yokohama.
 6, Kalgan, British str., for Foochow.
 6, Loyal, German str., for Canton.
 6, Osborn, British str., for Kobe.
 6, Pakhoi, British str., for Canton.
 6, Yungping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 6, Elisabeth, German bark, for Singapore.
 7, Chingping, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
 7, Ingraban, German str., for Saigon.
 7, Namoa, British str., for Swatow.
 7, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
 7, Skarpsno, Norw. str., for Kobe.
 7, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 7, Alacrity, British d.-v., for Swatow.
 8, Empress of China, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 8, Java, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Shantung, British str., for Singapore.
 8, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 8, Formosa, British str., for London.
 8, Kong Beng, British str., for Bangkok.
 8, Narcissus, British cr., for Korea.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Hongkong*, str., from Haiphong—Mr. B. Barlow.
 Per *Canton*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mrs. John Ferguson and two children.
 Per *Chingtu*, str., from Australia—Misses Ferguson, Greene, O. Greene, Sprague, Sherlock, and Dunbar, Mrs. Dunbar, Mrs. Sherlock, Mrs. Greene, Mrs. Sprague, Mrs. Low, Mrs. Champeny, Mrs. and Miss Ting, Messrs. Ferguson, Ferguson, Junr., Greene, Champeny, Nicholson, Smith, Low, Farrar, Dunbar, Sherlock, Paul, Paul, Junr., Pearson, Holland, Hammond, and Dr. McCosh.
 Per *Namoa*, str., from Coast Ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Carroll and 4 children.
 Per *Java*, str., from London—Miss Irland, Messrs. Campbell and Gurner.
 Per *Chaufa*, str., from Bangkok—Mr. and Mrs. Eakin and 2 children, Miss Nina Plain.
 Per *China*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Cook, Master Cook, Miss N. Smith, Messrs. F. F. Carrick, Hugh N. Coulson, R. L. Thomson, J. C. Lyon, and Capt. Felipe S. Mesa.
 Per *Formosa*, str., from Yokohama for Hongkong—Mr. H. Smith. For London—Capt. C. Hendry, Miss Webb. From Kobe for Hongkong—Mr. W. Douglas Graham. From Shanghai for Hongkong—Mr. H. Hewett. For London—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Oxley and four children.

Per *Pekin*, str., from London for Hongkong.—Lt. G. R. A. Gaunt, Sub-Lt. E. A. Hinckson, Mr. and Mrs. Hennessy and 3 children. For Shanghai—Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald and infant, Messrs. Broadbent, H. Wickens and S. Turner, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Brown and 5 children, Rev. W. H. Moule, Miss Moule, Dr. and Mrs. Parry and 6 children, Rev. J. M. and Mrs. Graham, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Grieve, Mrs. Ross and infant, Misses Horner, K. K. Paton, M. S. Davidson, and Jones. For Yokohama—Messrs. Addie and H. H. Child, Mr. and Mrs. Whitelaw, Mr. and Mrs. Man. For Sydney—Mr. R. E. Large. From Marseilles for Hongkong—Mr. T. Waters. For Yokohama—Mr. Haworth. From Brindisi for Hongkong—Messrs. M. Stewart and O. Hille. For Shanghai—Messrs. McGregor Grant, J. R. M. Smith, Alfd. Wölkchen, A. J. H. Moule, Erickson, and Frickher. For Yokohama—Messrs. R. C. Hope, Isganisheff, and Jaegas, Mr. and Mrs. Reed, and Mr. and Miss Reed. From Malta—Messrs. J. I. P. Birch

and M. Allen. From Venice—Messrs. M. L. Racca and Usigli. From Colombo for Hongkong—Mr. D. Scouler. For Yokohama—Messrs. H. Hoare and G. S. Knox. From Bombay for Hongkong—Mrs. Kinneer, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Cunningham, and Mr. C. R. McMillan. For Yokohama—Maj.-Genl. Sir G. Wolseley, and Mr. G. de Herring Smith. For Hongkong from Calcutta—Mr. G. W. A. Lloyd. From Penang—Messrs. J. Moore and C. Wilkerson. For Shanghai—Mr. E. H. Bratt. From Ismailia—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Rogers. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. H. Newman. From Singapore for Hongkong—Mr. James Meldrum. For Yokohama—Mr. Koyama. For Nagasaki—Mr. Sahnre.

Per *Wingsang*, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan and 2 children, Mrs. Lyall, Mrs. Bennett, Messrs. Potts, Lees, F. Betz, T. Carley, and Brother Adrian.

Per *Ancona*, str., from Yokohama, &c.—Lady Eva Fitzgerald, Lady Nesta Fitzgerald, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Kwong Chee and child, Mrs. S. Rickmers, Mrs. R. Rickmers, Mrs. M. Hoffmann, Messrs. S. Hara, Coe, A. J. Easton, T. Cowen, Fung Shack Ping, A. B. Anderson, Shing Ko and child.

Per *Velocity*, bark, from Honolulu—Mr. J. W. Brown.

Per *Taisang*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Cartman.

Per *Menmuir*, str., from Australia—Rev. Hon. Canon Bouverie, Hon. Stuart Bouverie, Mrs. Robart, Mr. and Mrs. Rosenfeld, Mr. and Mrs. Wheen and 3 children, Lieut. and Mrs. Lampert and 2 children, Messrs. Young, Edwards, Archer, and Barnes.

Per *Hanoi*, str., for Hoihow, &c.—Mr. Leroux (French Consul), and Mr. A. R. Marty.

DEPARTED.

Per *Preussen*, str., from Shanghai for London—Messrs. J. Lambert, St. Wilkinson, Ad. Steiner, H. Valentine, Tindall, A. Boyd, and Th. Aikinson. For Bremen—Messrs. W. Schattschneider, H. Bryde, H. Thuna. For Colombo—Mr. Hans Schrocter. From Yokohama for Naples—Lieut. James and family, and Miss E. Tuck. For Genoa—Messrs. Meyerdioks and Neubert. For Southampton—Messrs. A. Brown and Ferguson. From Hyogo for Bremen—Mr. O. Kosing. For Naples via Genoa—Mr. F. Thiel. For Genoa—Capt. Gautars. From Hongkong for Southampton—Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Sam and children, Master M. F. Smith, Messrs. J. Logan, J. Bryant, and J. Andrews. For Bremen—Mrs. J. Lamke and children. For Genoa—Mrs. C. C. Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. Jameson, Dr. F. Korn and child, Messrs. F. R. Heeneberg, H. Borner, J. G. Schrocter, Hans Schrocter, Suziyama, and Konishi. For Antwerp—Mr. and Mrs. A. Findlay Smith and children. For Colombo—Mr. A. Murphy, Mr. and Miss Emary. For Deli—Mr. C. Ackert. For Singapore—Miss M. Waha, Messrs. E. Schwarz, F. von der Flus, and Funstvig.

Per *City of Peking*, str., for Nagasaki—Mrs. Okiwasan, Mrs. R. Green, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Anderson. For Yokohama—Dr. E. Rudel, Mr. and Mrs. Percival, and Mrs. A. Turner. For San Francisco—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Reed, Mrs. Dora Benjamin, Mr. A. W. Seymour. For London—Mrs. D. Wynters.

Per *Ernest Simons*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon—Mr. Martos, Mrs. Rosa Zimbelinan. For Marseilles—Messrs. Aug. Schomburg, J. Keiser, R. Nully, S. D. Ezekiel, E. A. de Carvalho, W. Boffey, H. E. Stanley, Alfred Finke, Lord Dunsandle, Mr. and Mrs. E. Frandon, Mrs. and Miss Huart, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. da Cruz. From Shanghai for Singapore—Dr. D. H. Horsey, Messrs. A. E. Boives and David Braun, Mr. and Miss C. Ebenvein. For Port Said—H. E. Li Hung-chang (Chinese Ambassador), Lord Li, Messrs. Li King Tse, Lo Fong Loh, Se Mie, Faksama, Lien Yieu, Liang Fang Shue Ho, Kung Lientso, Wang Tai, von Grot, Dr. Irwin, Revs. Erhard Strobl and F. Betta, Dr. Bombay—Mr. Yokolstako. From Kobe for Port Said—Mrs. de Tritiacoff. For Marseilles—Mrs. J. Munter, Mrs. Li and 2 children, Revs. Timothy Richard and A. G. Shorrock, Misses K. B. Bean and Lena Orth, Messrs. Repichet Pierio, C. T. Munter, Armin Juillerat, and L'Abbe Marnas. From Yokohama for Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Ure, Mrs. Revon and 2 children, Messrs. Munter, Careme, and Tsuyuki.